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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

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No. 1499.

BARBADOS

REPORT FOR 1929-30

(*For Report for 1927–28 see No. 1422 (Price 1s. 0d.) and for Report for 1928–29 see No. 1462 (Price 1s. 6d.).*)

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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1929-30.

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History and Geography.

1. Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1929 of 170,391. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

2. Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the island in great numbers.

3. The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way

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to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I. granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I. was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629, in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the island.

4. In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

5. At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

6. Barbados claims, by its natural and climatic conditions, to be the healthiest of all the West Indian islands, and is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies; while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December

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to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados :—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

7. Unlike most of the other West Indian islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine Members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four Members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The Executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King, together with one Member of the Legislative Council and four Members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the Members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

8. The island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

I.—GENERAL.

As a result of world over-production, sugar, the island's staple industry, dropped in price to a level lower than the cost of production. On the 12th February, 1929, a Resolution was passed by the House of Assembly in which the House expressed deep concern at the serious outlook for the sugar industry in the island, and urged that the Imperial Government should take immediate steps to increase the amount of preference afforded Empire sugars on entry into Great Britain, as being the only immediate available means of reducing the heavy loss to producers, and thereby enabling them to continue the cultivation of their lands, provide work for and pay a living wage to the labouring population during the present depression.

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2. The terms of this Resolution were at once telegraphed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

3. Representations having been made by the Governments of other West Indian Colonies in which the cultivation and production of sugar is an important industry, the Secretary of State appointed a Commission to enquire into and report on—

(*a*) the causes of the present depression, the question how far they are temporary, or permanent, and the general outlook for the industry;

(*b*) the measures, whether by means of research, improvements in cultivation, better organization of production, transport, manufacture, and marketing, or otherwise, which they might consider are required in order to place the industry in the best possible position for the future, and the means by which such measures could be financed and carried into effect;

(*c*) any measures which may be desirable for the temporary assistance of the industry, for the provision of other employment, or for the relief of distress;

(*d*) the advisability and feasibility of replacing sugar by alternative crops in any particular areas, and the measures incidental thereto, including any schemes of migration of labourers or land settlements.

4. The Commission, consisting of the Right Honourable Lord Olivier, P.C., K.C.M.G., Chairman, and Mr. **D.** M. Semple, Commissioners, Mr. G. A. Jones, of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Agricultural Adviser, Mr. Sydney Caine of the Colonial Office, Secretary, and a lady clerk, arrived in Barbados on the 17th October, 1929, and remained in the island till the 26th October, when the Commission left for Antigua.

5. During their stay in Barbados the Commission held five public sittings, and a further one on the 12th November, when they called at the island on their way from Saint Lucia to British Guiana. Twenty-nine witnesses were examined publicly and private discussions were held with the Governor and a number of other persons. They visited all parts of the island and inspected eight representative sugar factories.

6. On the completion of their enquiry the Commissioners recommended to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that—

(1) His Majesty's Government should forthwith seriously endeavour, by whatever methods may best commend themselves, to promote the rationalization of world conditions and policy in regard to sugar production and trading, as His Majesty's Government effectively did in respect to the similar situation reported upon by the 1897 Commission.

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In the interim,

(2) All sugar for the United Kingdom should be bought by a single agency and Imperial sugar paid for at a fixed minimum rate based on reasonable economic costs of production. This rate should be at present about £15 per ton c.i.f. for 96° sugar (slightly over 1½d. per lb.). All other sugar should be purchased in the open market, taking full advantage of the cheapness caused by fiscal policies pending a reversion to sanity.

(3) By way of a moratorium, to enable the industry to carry on under present conditions, British preference on Imperial sugars should as quickly as possible be raised to equal Canadian preference for West Indian sugar, viz., 4s. 8d. per cwt.

(4) Pending the remedying of the world situation which now cheapens sugar excessively for British consumers or the establishment of a single purchasing system with guaranteed minimum price, the British Customs duty on sugar should not be reduced below 4s. 8d. per cwt., under which tariff Imperial sugar should be admitted free.

7. The Department of Science and Agriculture continued its work on the breeding of sugar cane and a number of new varieties are reaching the commercial stage. Prominent amongst these are the varieties B726 and B891—the former of which gives every indication of being the best sugar cane seedling under certain climatic conditions produced by Barbados, not even excepting the world renowned B.H.10(12).

8. The constant introduction of new parent canes through the quarantine station at Washington is now giving results and during the last reaping season three seedlings (having as male parent a Barbados cane and as female parent P.O.J.2364) have proved of sufficient merit to be included in the extended field trials, that is to say, that if their promise is fulfilled they are only three years from being distributed as commercial varieties.

9. The introduction of these fresh parents is involving a great deal of extra work on the personnel of the Department and the time is fast approaching when the assistance which in the past has always been willingly given to the rest of the British West Indies in the supplying of new varieties will have to be curtailed or withdrawn unless financial assistance is forthcoming from sources outside Barbados.

10. Considerable progress has been made in the breeding of new varieties of sweet potatoes for early maturity and capacity for storage, which will be essential if the projected co-operative marketing and export of ground-produce (with which the Department is closely associated) bears fruit.

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11. Sunflowers are being tested together with other oil-bearing seeds with a view to providing a fat suitable for cooking to replace the extensive importation of cotton seed from the Northern States in South America.

12. The measures adopted for the elimination of the pink boll-worm have proved a hundred per cent. effective with the result that no traces of this pest have been reported during the first six months of 1930, and that over 2,000 acres will be put under sea island cotton next season.

13. The results of the first season's distribution of the parasite (*Trichogramma minutum*) to combat the ravages of the moth or stalk-borer (*Diatraea saccharalis*) have been highly successful. Planters and factory managers are unanimous in reporting a much smaller percentage of damaged canes and a very much cleaner juice.

14. The situation with regard to the root borer (*Diaprepes Abbreviatus*) is not so satisfactory. Although a large proportion of planters have co-operated heartily with the Department there still remain a number of reactionaries, who persist in neglecting to collect beetles. It is, however, safe to say that the depredations of this pest are being checked, even though its economic control is not in sight.

15. The mosaic disease is now under economic control and is no longer regarded as a menace to the sugar industry in Barbados.

16. The manurial trials carried out by the Agricultural Chemist are proving to planters that many thousands of dollars can be saved every year by the scientific application of balanced fertilisers, rather than by the rule of thumb methods formerly in practice. The trials conducted in sour grass pastures give every indication of revolutionizing the agricultural practice of the island, as the greatly increased yield following on the application of the manure gives more food for stock and sufficient of a heavy mulch in the canes in January when it is most needed and when hitherto it has been unavailable. This heavy trashing is bound to result in a diminished need for pen manure which has formed in the past the basis of cultivation.

17. Work with the Zeiss Refractometer in the control of vacuum pan boiling in sugar-manufacture has, by the energetic work of the Agricultural Chemist, now become a commercial proposition and is in practical use in three factories.

18. The soil survey of the island is progressing, but is retarded by the employment of the personnel being engaged in the analyses of commercial sugar for half the year.

19. An effort was made to take an Agricultural Census of the island. While the planters submitted fairly complete returns,

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those of the peasant farmers were very incomplete and inaccurate. However, the figures received covered seventy-five per cent. of the average of the island.

20. A new Session of the Legislature was opened on the 4th February, 1930. The general elections of members of the House of Assembly were held on the 3rd February for the election of 24 representatives. One member of the old Assembly did not seek re-election. Twelve members were returned unopposed, and there were contested elections in six of the twelve constituencies. The new Assembly consisted of 20 old members and 4 new members, three old members having lost their seats. The total number of persons whose names were included in the electoral rolls at the time of the election was 5,148. The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 8 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 18 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last census returns.

21. A party of members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association made a tour of the British West Indies on the C.N.S. *Lady Drake*, which sailed from Halifax on the 24th January, 1930. Information respecting the proposed visit had been received through Sir William Clark, K.C.S.I., C.M.G., High Commissioner for Great Britain in Canada. The party arrived at Barbados on the 4th February and attended the opening ceremony of the Legislature, leaving the Colony the same day on their south-bound trip. On their return northward they had an opportunity of meeting members of the Chamber of Commerce and discussing matters relating to the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement.

22. Other distinguished visitors to the Colony during the year were :—The Right Honourable Viscount Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., Governor-General of Canada, who visited the Colony in December accompanied by Dame Lady Willingdon ; His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., P.C., Lord Methuen, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Sir Esme Howard, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Washington, and Lord Robert Baden Powell, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Chief Scout.

The visit of the Chief Scout directed attention to the work which is being done locally in Scouting. The movement was started in 1912, by the formation of a troop at the Combermere School ; it soon became popular through the parish of Saint Michael, and it has more recently been extended to the out parishes where many elementary schools have taken it up. The organization is controlled by an Island Scout Council. Its present strength is 715.

The Girl Guide movement was introduced in 1918 and is doing well ; its present strength is 486.

23. The advantages of climate which the island possesses, its excellent sea-bathing facilities, and the adequate hotel and club

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accommodation which are always at the disposal of visitors are assets, the value of which is being increasingly recognized. Facilities for recreation are abundant. Cricket is very popular. The season lasts from June to December and games are played on Saturdays. There is an annual intercolonial tournament played in each of the Colonies of Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana in turn. A team under the auspices of the M.C.C. visited the West Indies in the winter of 1929–30, and played in each of the Colonies above mentioned as well as in Jamaica, two matches against a Colony Eleven and one test match against a representative West Indies Team.

Association Football is played from January to April. It has increased in popularity in recent years as the result of visits to the Colony by strong teams from Trinidad where the game has reached a high standard.

There are many good tennis clubs in the island, the principal one being the Savannah Club. Golf is well catered for by the Rockley Golf and Country Club, which came into existence about a year ago.

24. Progress has been made in the organization of hurricane relief arrangements during the year by the formulation of a scheme to give effect to relief measures and to indicate, for the guidance of local Committees, what procedure may be advantageously adopted in the initiation of relief and reconstruction after a hurricane.

25. The total rainfall for the year, measured at 143 stations, was 56·03 inches.

26. The malaria epidemic, which made its first appearance in 1927, died out during the year. As compared with 1928 the number of cases fell from 2,951 to 560, of which 430 cases were notified in the month of January. No new case has been notified since the middle of October, 1929.

27. Health Week was observed in the Colony during the period from 21st July to 27th July, 1929. The idea originated with the Health Commissioners of the Parish of Saint Michael, who were desirous of effecting a general cleaning up of the Central Parish ; but it was possible also to arrange so as to extend the movement to the other parishes of the island. Lectures were given daily by medical practitioners to the children of the elementary schools and to the inhabitants of the villages, while a general cleaning up of rubbish was carried out in every district. A Mass Meeting was held at Queen's Park on Thursday, 25th July, in the afternoon, at which His Excellency the Governor presided.

28. The work of restoration of Codrington College commenced in January, and at the date of writing this report the walls have been raised to the required height and are awaiting the arrival of the roof which has been imported from the United Kingdom. £5,000 towards the restoration has been contributed from public funds.

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29. Questions relating to road maintenance and construction and the provision of transport facilities, whether by road or rail, were referred to a Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor and two interim reports have been presented. In the first report the Committee suggest that the provision of adequate storage and shipping arrangements at the railway terminus and the extension of the lines in order to tap fresh areas might increase the volume of traffic, lead to reduction in freight and handling charges, as well as economy in road maintenance.

In their second report the Committee have examined the road policy of the past and have submitted recommendations, the adoption of which they regard as a necessary preliminary to proposals which they hope to submit for the improvement of financial and administrative arrangements.

30. The recommendations of a Committee appointed to submit proposals for which assistance might be sought from the Colonial Development Fund included the following :—road reconstruction, improvement and extension of water supply, provision of venereal disease clinics, development of the market, provision for treatment of tuberculosis at parochial almshouses, additional plant for agricultural instruction, improvement of fire brigade. An appeal has been forwarded to the Colonial Office for the required assistance, together with a request for expert investigation in regard to harbour improvements and the provision of a sewerage system.

31. The following naval ships visited the Colony :—

H.M.S. *Despatch* on the 2nd April, 1929.
H.M.S. *Wistaria* on the 22nd April, 1929.
Argentine Ship *Buenos Ayres* on the 11th May, 1929.
German School Ship *Grossherzogen Elizabeth* on the 27th November, 1929.
H.M.S. *Wistaria* on the 5th March, 1930.

32. An application was received in January from the Pan-American Airways, Incorporated, for permission to make Barbados a port of call for the purpose of delivering mails and refuelling, and carrying passengers by its aircraft. A special and temporary authorization was granted. It is understood that a British Company entitled "Atlantic Airways, Limited," propose to commence operations in the West Indies in the near future.

33. In Barbados the administration of local affairs is vested in parochial authorities and boards, mainly independent of administrative control, which receive from the Central Government either grants-in-aid for specific purposes or the funds necessary for the conduct of public institutions. Their operations are directed mainly towards the maintenance of health and highways as well as in the provision of adequate means of sustenance for the poor. Parochial revenue amounted collectively during the year to £125,318,

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and expenditure to £121,351. The total cost of poor relief was £81,707, of which £42,443 was raised and expended by parochial authorities. Special grants from general revenue to the Parishes for highways purposes amounted to £5,450 in excess of those for which the law provides, and the total expended by Parochial Commissioners was £27,120.

34. No changes have occurred in currency. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation, and British silver is legal tender to an unlimited amount. There is in addition a dollar paper currency issued by the banks, the exchange value being fixed at $4·80 to the pound sterling.

35. British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925–26	404,132	394,249
1926–27	387,462	418,711
1927–28	414,884	481,252
1928–29	441,732	459,626
1929–30	453,802	450,696

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1929–30 was £407,042, as compared with £419,674 for 1928–29, and the ordinary expenditure £403,936, compared with £437,568. Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1930, was £34,130.

Special Funds.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	50,583	11	8
Water Boat Renewal Fund	11,208	4	8
Red Cross Fund	1,676	1	2
Public Officers' Security Fund	5,603	10	10
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	24,760	8	4
Road Reconstruction Fund	18,243	3	2
	£212,074	19	10

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Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1929–30 shows an increase of £12,070 over that of the previous year, the principal heads showing increases being "Reimbursements" £24,144; Customs £3,593; while the largest decreases occur under Excise £10,074; Income Tax £5,504. The increase under all heads was £30,201, while the decreases totalled £18,131. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure for 1929–30, excluding loan disbursements, was £403,936, a decrease of £33,632 as compared with the previous year. The total expenditure for the year was £8,930 less than in 1928–29.

4. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," and "Water Works." The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

	£	*Compared with 1928–29.* £
Police	45,516, a decrease of ...	165
Education ...	50,598, a decrease of ...	3,752
Medical	46,298, an increase of ...	4,372
Water Works ...	45,021, a decrease of ...	6,598
	£187,433	

The total expenditure on these four departments, £187,433, represents 46 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

5. Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £33,287, and in the anti-malaria campaign £607. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds has finally to be decided, but the suggestion put forward and adopted tentatively by the Legislature is that 50 per cent. of the expenditure should be so allocated.

6. As compared with the previous year there was a net decrease in expenditure of a sum of £8,930.

Public Debt.

7. The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1930, was £654,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £330,655, as compared with £318,242 in 1929. The accumulated sinking fund for the Water Works Loan of £375,000 was, at the end of the financial year, potentially full, and provision for further accretions to the fund has been discontinued. The Loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1930, were as follows :—

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Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	
Water Works Loan Act, 1894	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	281,895	8	6	15th March, 1942.
Public Works Loan Act, 1887	92,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	19,147	3	9	£6,000 October, 1930. £14,000 November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	8,106	9	4	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	20,999	6	10	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928 (No. 28)	75,000	0	0	75,000	0	0	506	9	7	October, 1975.
	£726,000	0	0	£654,000	0	0	£330,654	18	0	

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Government Savings Bank.

8. On the 31st December, 1929, there were 10,140 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £539,102. The value of the invested funds was £675,387. The figures for 1928 were : deposits £577,089, invested funds £723,850, and number of depositors 11,776. The number of depositors shows a decrease of 1,636, and the total amount to their credit a decrease of £37,987, the amount by which the withdrawals for the year exceeded the deposits.

An amendment to the Savings Bank Act passed in 1929 authorized the writing off to Profit and Loss Account of all accounts whose balances were less than one dollar with which no transaction had taken place for a period of five years. Under this amendment 1,464 accounts were closed, the total amount written off being £119 15s. 3d.

The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

9. This Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows :—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, ex officio, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The Staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1930, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,731.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1930, was £196,813, as compared with £190,082 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,397, as compared with £2,321 for the previous year.

Loans and interest outstanding at 31st May, 1930, which are secured as a first lien against the land of the several borrowers, are due as under :—

	Loans due.			*Interest unpaid*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1921 loans due from 13 borrowers	23,583	6	11½	1,697	16	3½
1924 ,, ,, ,, 1 borrower	450	0	0	27	0	0
1925 ,, ,, ,, 4 borrowers	5,906	17	2	578	6	2½
1926 ,, ,, ,, 8 ,, ...	6,306	8	2	451	7	10
1927 ,, ,, ,, 2 ,, ...	600	0	0	94	15	6½
1928 ,, ,, ,, 13 ,, ...	5,290	19	1	204	16	2½
1929 ,, ,, ,, 46 ,, ...	28,690	8	0½	1274	13	7
1930 ,, ,, ,, 103 ,, ...	146,628	11	0	3,008	6	3½
	£217,456	10	5	£7,337	1	11½

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III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

1. *Sugar.*—According to Customs returns for the year 1929, 62,107[17] tons of vacuum pan crystals, 3,408[17] tons of muscovado sugar, and 8,035,779 wine gallons of molasses, equal at 110 gallons per puncheon to 73,052 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported. The value of these exports, £956,206, was made up as follows :—

Sugar.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £	£
Dark Crystals	62,107[17]	683,187	
Muscovado	3,408[17]	39,202	
	65,516[14]		722,389
Molasses.	*Gallons.*		
Fancy	6,377,435	212,581	
Choice	579,546	14,489	
Vacuum pan	1,078,798	6,747	
	8,035,779		233,817
			£956,206

The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1925	65,567
1926	64,431
1927	72,301
1928	78,973
1929	82,298

Sugar-cane production as distinct from sugar produced has been as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1925	772,453
1926	760,525
1927	843,160
1928	913,216
1929	954,656

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

The average prices obtained for sugar and its by-products are as follows :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sugar, per ton ...14	10 0	12 5 0	15 5 0	13 9 0	11 0 6
Molasses, per gallon	1 0	9	11	10	7
Rum, per gallon ...	2 0	2 1	2 1	1 11½	1 11½

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The value and destination of sugar and molasses shipped from the Colony was as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	67,809	3,589
Canada	641,326	157,687
Newfoundland	24	18,372
United States of America ...	—	50,982
Holland	2,038	3,078
Elsewhere	11,192	105

The value of these commodities exported was in the case of sugar, less than in 1928, by £152,850 and in the case of molasses less by £54,882.

2. *Cotton.*—No cotton was grown commercially during the period under review. The encroachment of the pink boll worm necessitated the introduction of a close season for the island and it is gratifying to record that at the date of writing (June, 1930) no trace of the pest has been observed in the island.

Mining.

3. A small quantity of manjak is mined and exported. The industry, however, remains undeveloped and it appears that deposits are not explored or worked to an extent which their occurrence may justify.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

1. The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1925	2,296,359	1,421,035	3,717,394
1926	2,155,167	1,287,161	3,442,328
1927	2,300,108	1,603,531	3,903,639
1928	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424
1929	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901

2. The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £10,791 more than in 1928. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1925	225,023
1926	133,966
1927	167,869
1928	185,863
1929	196,654

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3. Imports during 1929 as compared with 1928 show a decrease of £309,558. The principal decreases of imports are seen in the following :—Motor Cars and Motor Vehicles £24,146 ; Cotton Piece Goods £20,237 ; Coal £13,915 ; Flour £16,970 ; Oats £10,480 ; Rice £15,223 ; Manures, all kinds £18,646 ; Machinery, all kinds, £16,109 ; Iron and Steel Manufactures £12,002 ; Pitch Pine £12,818 ; Shingles £10,285 ; Articles introduced by Parcels Post £19,464 ; Staves and Shooks £12,758.

The principal increases are seen in Butter £8,061 ; Fish Dried, Salted, etc., £5,421 ; Oils :—Edible £6,016 ; Residue £14,177.

For the five years prior to 1929 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 28,010 tons. In 1929 the number of tons taken were 22,008. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

	Steamships.	*Tons of coal.*
1925	121	30,895
1926	150	32,702
1927	127	26,786
1928	105	26,411
1929	101	22,008

4. The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	36·3	30·9	33·5	35·4	33·9
Canada	20·9	20·5	19·3	20·7	18·7
Other parts of the British Empire	15·2	18·5	18·5	17·2	17·6
United States of America ...	18·7	21·6	19·9	17·3	19·6
Other Foreign Countries ...	8·9	8·5	8·8	9·4	10·2

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1929 exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	691,216
Canada	381,704
Other parts of the British Empire	358,172
United States of America	400,289
Other Foreign Countries	207,423

5. Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, Drink, etc.	809,619
Raw Materials	294,085
Manufactured Articles	864,964
Miscellaneous	70,136
	£2,038,804
Specie	797
	£2,039,601

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6. The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	7,726	542
Butter	5,063	630
Oilmeal (cattle food)	12,071	39,979
Coal	—	23,331
Cornmeal	—	25,945
Fish (salted)	34,160	—
Flour	85,949	25,401
Oats	23,754	8
Manures	16,524	4,458
Salt Beef	—	3,618
Pork	13,999	21,659
Wood (various)	40,260	20,436

7. The total value of exports was £1,281,094, of which £1,012,167 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £268,927 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1929.		*1928.*		*1927.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	65,517	722,389	62,659	875,239	53,106	815,637
Molasses (gals.) ...	8,035,779	233,813	7,229,181	288,699	8,258,690	426,698
Cotton (lb.) ...	8,858	728	14,249	1,680	187,709	20,726
Rum (gals.) ...	46,130	4,517	40,690	3,983	22,425	2,336

	1926.		*1925.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Sugar (tons)	45,786	593,819	47,460	686,238
Molasses (gals.)	7,760,334	310,745	7,869,275	395,910
Cotton (lb.)	315,192	40,623	235,911	22,998
Rum (gals.)	18,692	1,947	13,292	1,329

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 210,853 gallons.

8. The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	477
Biscuits	19,174
Cotton Seed Meal	1,548
Fruit (tamarind)	3,496
Hides and Skins	8,218
Lime, " building "	4,104
Manjak	160
Oils (edible)	463
Vegetables, fresh	7,956

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9. The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	204,970	247,987	141,078	159,731	78,381
Canada	767,619	593,474	1,024,297	923,079	799,230
Other parts of the British Empire.	97,001	70,152	76,489	68,473	64,401
United States of America	54,909	61,756	58,279	59,148	58,221
Other Foreign Countries ...	19,895	15,008	11,887	15,698	11,455
Stores (ships)	—	—	976	640	479
	£1,144,394	£988,377	£1,313,006	£1,226,769	£1,012,167

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1928 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	—	5·3
Canada	3·8	—
Other parts of the British Empire	0·8	—
United States of America ...	1·0	—
Other Foreign Countries ...	—	0·1

Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the island, and will probably continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

1. The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,104, with a net tonnage of 1,983,686 as compared with 1,194 vessels with a tonnage of 1,990,866 during the previous year. In addition five ships of war, eleven yachts, and two training ships visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 4,115, while 3,969 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service of ships was £47,000 as compared with £43,200 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the

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Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) run a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. The same Company operate the Surinam Line, a three-weekly service from Amsterdam calling at Dover, Madeira, Paramaribo, Demerara, Barbados, Trinidad, Venezuelan ports, Curaçao, Haiti, and New York; when homeward bound, these vessels do not call at Barbados but, in addition to the above-named ports, touch at Boulogne. The Elders and Fyffes Line of steamers make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth, calling at Barbados. The duration of the voyage from England is about 13 days, the return journey is usually accomplished in 11 days.

The Canadian National Steamships operate a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands and Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The freight and passenger service commenced in December, 1928, with the sailing of the s.s. *Lady Nelson* from Halifax, N.S., on the 14th of that month. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provide a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Lamport and Holt Line, the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), and the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), the first-named calling at Barbados on their voyage between New York and South American ports. Ships of the Aluminium Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

The Western Ocean Steamship Corporation started a fortnightly service in December from New York to Barbados via Bermuda and the Northern Islands, thence to Paramaribo via Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and Demerara.

Railways.

2. A light railway 24 miles long runs through the southern Parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are

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derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £13,000. The actual expenditure including extraordinary outlay was £13,285 and the actual revenue £11,250.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1929.	*1928.*	*1927.*
Passengers	91,204	94,341	103,653
Horses	—	—	—
Mules	—	—	—
Asses	—	—	—
Cows	5	3	3
Calves	28	19	14
Sheep	32	14	15
Goats and Kids	37	29	19
Pigs	36	44	44
Dogs	33	34	47

Goods :—	*1929.* *T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*1928.* *T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*1927.* *T.*	*C.*	*Q.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses.	16,663	7	0	16,433	14	0	17,399	13	0
Canes	9,078	16	2	12,889	2	0	11,988	6	0
Fuel	156	8	2	231	8	0	311	9	0
Sundries	9,704	13	1	6,452	8	2	8,524	14	2
	35,603	5	1	36,006	12	2	38,224	2	2

Roads.

3. The island is a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficient provision of funds, and the lack of skilled engineering assistance, led to rapid deterioration of the roads of the island.

As stated elsewhere in this report the island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied ; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 120 miles of main roads and approximately 300 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use.

The first definite step towards relieving the situation was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to

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assume control of, and reconstruct, the main roads radiating from Bridgetown. This step was based on a report of a Road Commission appointed by the Governor in 1925. The Commission thus appointed had the assistance of Mr. Maurice Ravenor, M.I.C.E., who estimated that the roads classified as main roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile. He also recommended that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926–27, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1928–29, the sum of £74,350 has been spent on six of the seven arterial roads plus approximately £22,000 from Parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

In addition to the sum of £74,350 mentioned above, a sum of £3,150 was granted to the Board to oil and improve some nine miles of the seventh arterial road in the parish of Christ Church, which had recently been re-surfaced by the Parochial Authorities.

The whole question of expenditure on road reconstruction and maintenance is at present under consideration.

For the year 1929–30 the Legislature granted £40,550 for road reconstruction, of which £30,660 was expended to 31st March, 1930. Up to this date 42 miles of arterial roads have been completed.

Postal, etc.

4. There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Harrison, Elders and Fyffes, Leyland, Royal Netherlands, proceeding to Great Britain, certain West Indian Colonies, Central America and Colon.

Canadian Nationals, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, Bermuda, British West Indian Colonies, and British Guiana.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, and certain West Indian Islands.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

Bermuda and West Indies, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

Lamport and Holt, proceeding to New York and South American ports.

In addition to the above, mails are forwarded by any other available lines.

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The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*	
	1928.	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Mails for Barbados	498	489	19	9
Mails from Barbados	502	495	61	58

	1928.	*1929.*
Bags of mail despatched ...	5,129	4,956
Bags of mail received	11,680	11,467
Bags of mail received in transit...	4,585	4,856
Registered articles	96,390	94,922
Parcel-post packages	62,400	66,482
	£	£
Money-orders issued	10,661	11,034
Money-orders paid	79,737	87,962

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

1. The Statutes of Barbados are, in the main, similar to those of England, and the Superior Courts are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction is vested in a Judge of the Petty Debt Court in Bridgetown and seven Police Magistrates, five of whom in rural districts have jurisdiction in civil matters. From their decisions and judgments there lies an appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal composed of three Judges. Besides its appellate jurisdiction this Court possesses limited equitable and probate jurisdiction. The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,275.

The Judicial Establishment Act, No. 43 of 1929, aims at improving the administration of justice and the status and efficiency of judicial officers. It seeks to effect these objects by a reduction in the number of judicial officers, an increase in their work and responsibilities, and an advancement in their salaries, the salaries at present paid being inadequate and in many instances fixed on a pre-war basis.

The changes which will be carried out by the Bill may be summarized as follows :—

(1) Reduction in the number of Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal from three to two. These Judges will sit together to hear appeals and singly to hear original cases, causes, and matters in the original jurisdiction of the Court (£50 at Common Law, £300 in Equity).

(2) Automatic appointment as acting Chief Judge of one of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal, when the holder of the substantive office of Chief Judge is absent for short periods in the performance of duties as a Judge of the West Indian Court of Appeal.

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(3) One of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal to be Registrar of Friendly Societies and the other Inspector of Prisons.

(4) Abolition of the judgeship of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court and the transfer of the work of that Court to the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal, provision being made for appeals from the decision of a Judge in such matters to be heard by the other Judge and the Registrar.

(5) Increase of salaries of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal from £500 (two Judges) and £450 (one Judge) to £600 (two Judges, each per annum).

(6) Extension of the right of appeal from the Assistant Court of Appeal to the Court of Error to include appeals from decisions on fact as well as on points of law.

(7) Reduction in the number of magistrates by one :—the parish of Saint Thomas being grouped with the parishes at present comprising District " F " and the parish of Saint James being added to District " E."

(8) Transfer of the duties of Coroner of District " A " from a Judge of the Assistant Court of Appeal to the two magistrates of that district.

(9) Increase in the salaries of magistrates from £400 (District " A ") and £385 (Country districts) to £500 each per annum.

Police.

2. The Police Force, under the command of an Inspector-General who is also Commandant of the Local Forces, consists of 408 officers and men. An efficient Band is attached to the Force. The Inspector-General of Police is charged also with the control of a fire brigade consisting of 25 men.

Prisons.

3. Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony. It is divided into two sections, one for each of the sexes, and is a highly efficient and well-conducted institution. Juvenile adult prisoners are classified and segregated from adults, and instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, cement work, baking, and other crafts. In regard to criminal statistics, prison records for 1929 show an increase in the number of commitments, mainly on the male side. The following is a comparative statement of convictions for the last three years :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.
Total number of persons committed to prison	831	845	998
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	41	36	47
Daily average in prison (males)	144	125	137
Daily average in prison (females)	24	29	28
Police Court convictions	9,839	9,454	9,173
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	348	270	480
Convictions by Superior Court	50	49	54
Convictions by Superior Court for praedial larceny ...	—	—	—

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A scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners is conducted by the Prison Chaplain and the local branch of the Salvation Army.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No new works of importance have been carried out during the year 1929–30.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total population on the 31st December, 1929, was estimated to be 170,391. The death-rate during the year was 23.74 per thousand of the population, and the birth-rate 32.04. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1925 ...	34·85 per 1,000	70·92	29·46 per 1,000.
1926 ...	31·32 ,, ,,	68·83	29·62 ,, ,,
1927 ...	31·59 ,, ,,	66·81	20·21 ,, ,,
1928 ...	33·76 ,, ,,	65·99	30·10 ,, ,,
1929 ...	32·04 ,, ,,	63·37	23·74 ,, ,,

The percentage of uncertified deaths was 3·3 per cent. in 1929 of the total, as compared with 3 per cent. in 1928 and 4·3 per cent. in 1927.

Under the age group 1–5 years the percentage of deaths was 42·95 of the total number of deaths. The rate of infant mortality for the past five years is as follows :—

	Infant deaths per 1,000 births.
1925	312
1926	314
1927	201
1928	331
1929	239

Malaria.—In the year 1929 the total number of cases notified amounted to 560, of which 430 cases were notified in the month of January. No cases have been notified since 17th October, 1929.

The following table shows both the number of cases and their parochial distribution :—

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Cases of Malaria notified in 1929.

Parish.	*Jan.*	*Feb.*	*March.*	*April.*	*May.*	*June.*	*July.*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*Total.*
Saint Michael	59	14	5	4	1	6	10	4	0	0	0	0	103
Christ Church	271	34	14	3	7	3	3	1	2	2	0	0	340
Saint George	15	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	19
Saint Philip	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Saint John	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saint James	2	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Saint Thomas	21	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Saint Peter	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Saint Lucy	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Saint Joseph	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saint Andrew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	430	56	22	11	8	9	15	5	2	2	0	0	560

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The Baby Welfare Clinic continues to do good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds, and strictest economy has to be maintained. A medical practitioner attends on Wednesdays to examine and prescribe for sick babies, and is paid £3 6s. 8d. per month. The Treasury grants £150 a year and the Saint Michael's Vestry £100, but this year the Vestry granted an extra £50, in answer to a petition from the League for more help. Private donations during the year amounted to £30 5s. 7d. 318 infants were entered at the Clinic during the year ; 39 of these died, congenital syphilis being accountable for 10 of these deaths.

The following table gives the principal causes of death, as compiled from the returns made under the Registration of Deaths Act :—

Causes.	*Actual number of deaths.*	*Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.*	*Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.*
Fevers :—			
Enteric	41	10	0·2
Malaria	40	10	0·2
Other (except puerperal)...	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis*...	664	165	4·0
Pneumonia and bronchitis†	218	54	1·3
Kidney diseases	254	63	1·5
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis ...	173	43	1·0
Diseases peculiar to early infancy... ...	311	76	1·8
Old age	149	37	0·9
Diseases of the heart	292	73	1·7
Syphilis‡	556	138	3·3
Diseases of the nervous system	319	79	1·8

The number of deaths from syphilis was 556 as compared with 668 recorded in 1928. The Central Venereal Disease Clinic attached to the General Hospital is given an annual grant of £1,200 a year.

The number of deaths from bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis, dropped from 1,155 to 664. Of these deaths, 76 per cent. were of children under three years of age.

The following table gives the cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years :—

1925	432
1926	441
1927	350
1928	194
1929	209

During the last three years provision for the cost of free inoculation of contacts has been made in the Colonial Estimates.

* 76 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.
† 62 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.
‡ 87 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

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Six cases of leprosy were admitted and two re-admitted during the year to the Leper Asylum, and 13 patients were discharged conditionally.

At the end of the year, 115 patients remained at the Asylum. A scheme for the relief of discharged patients was, at the end of the year, still under consideration by the local branch of the Empire Leprosy Relief Association.

The number of inmates at the Mental Hospital at the end of the year was 471.

IX.—EDUCATION.

1. The schools of the island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board: Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 129 in 1929; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board are also taken by pupils of both second and first grade schools.

3. In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1929 was 23,374 and the average attendance 15,717, a decrease of 6 and an increase of 540 respectively as compared with the figures for 1928. During the year the system on which head teachers' salaries was based was revised and an incremental system introduced. The schools are now graded according to their average attendance, and the maximum and minimum salaries vary with the grade. A head-teacher may earn, in addition to his salary, a maximum amount of £25 per annum as an Efficiency Grant, the amount being dependent on the efficiency of the school as judged by the inspectors.

4. To the number of second-grade schools have been added the Saint Michael's Second-Grade School for Girls and the Christ Church Girls' Foundation School. The Saint Michael's School is excellently

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accommodated in a new building erected in 1927 at a cost of £15,000, and opened in 1928. The school now has an attendance of 110 which appears to be steadily increasing. The need for facilities for domestic science teaching at present exists, and provision for this important work, will, it is hoped, be made in the near future. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1929 was 360 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 188.

5. The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendances at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1929 were 238 and 153 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 101, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

6. Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, a Barbadian, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licenses, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. The College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until restoration, which is well under way, can be effected. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

7. The total grant for education purposes exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls in 1929 was £50,153, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc.; £10,461 grants to first and second grade schools, £794 for University Education, and £37,300 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses. Of the £37,300 allocated to elementary schools, the cost of salaries of teachers amounted to £31,373; £2,000 having been granted as compensation for loss of school fees, which are no longer collected as elementary education has been made free.

8. School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 5 schools, while 24 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, brush-making, etc. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools.

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9. Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924, (1924–31), 13 apprentices completed their first year's, 15 their second year's, 9 their third year's, 11 their fourth year's and 10 their fifth year's course. To these last ten the Education Board have issued certificates of competence as Journeymen Tradesmen on completion of their apprenticeship. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds, allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. 0d. a year. The whole question of technical training in the schools is still under review by the Board of Education. The aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker is abundantly in evidence, and it is by the development of this feature that he can hope to advance if, as may easily be the case, he should some day meet with disappointment in securing employment in Barbados of a kind sufficient to place him on a higher social plane than that from which, in the peculiar circumstances of life in his over-populated country, he may otherwise find it difficult to emerge. For the present the education system provides for each succeeding vacant junior clerkship in the Public Service a comparatively large number of well-educated candidates, of whom some have reached to the highest educational standards attainable locally, and many have for considerable periods been unsuccessful in obtaining clerical appointments.

10. The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were 6 male and 6 female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 95 teachers, 56 male and 39 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 72 (37 male and 35 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £600. The question for creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children had not been finalized at the close of the year, and the details of these proposals have yet to be developed.

11. At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was 85 and 13 respectively. During the year the Salvation Army undertook the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in

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connection with the scheme has now been included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given some instruction in agriculture and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. During the year, cooking was added to the curriculum.

The health at both institutions has been good.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The whole island of Barbados is fully developed and occupied. There are no waste lands. The total area of the Colony is 106,470 acres. Records respecting the size and numbers of holdings are not available. There are but 46 acres under forest timber. For many years the trees in this area have been protected by statute. The geological structure and surface features of Barbados were interestingly described in 1890 by Messrs. Harrison and Jukes Brown, who prepared also the only geological map of the island. No further geological survey, however, is contemplated.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is an abundant supply of labour available for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on plantations and sugar factories, but a considerable number also work on the wharves and in the coaling business. There is no immigration of labour into the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Forty-eight Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year 1929, of which the following were of importance :—

1929–5—Quarantine (Amendment) Act.
1929–16—Revenue in aid Act.
1929–19—Property and Conveyancing Act.
1929–21—Petroleum (Amendment) Act.
1929–27—Prevention of Corruption Act.
1929–43—Judicial Establishment Act.

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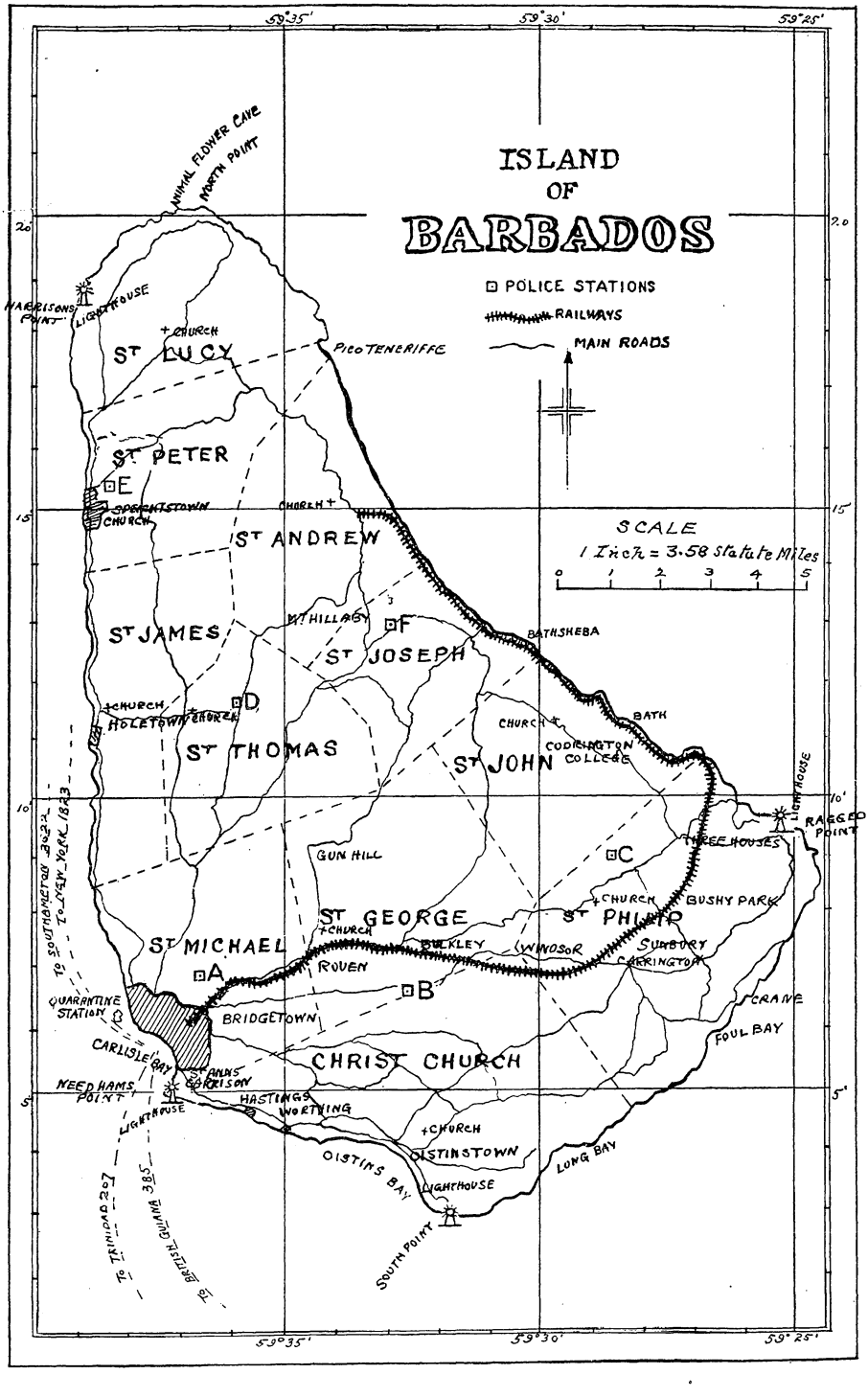

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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1929

BY

C. W. H. COCHRANE, C.M.G.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Federated Malay States.

KUALA LUMPUR:
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REPORT

OF THE

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PREFACE.

HISTORY.

The Federated Malay States comprise four States: Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang.

PERAK.

Perak is ruled by a dynasty that claims descent from the last Malay Sultan of Malacca. In the XVIIth century, it was overrun by the Achehnese, and at some time after 1636 a Johore prince, the husband of a Perak princess, was sent by Acheh to rule it under the title of Sultan Mudzaffar Shah. From 1650 onwards, the Dutch endeavoured to get a monopoly of the tin exported from Perak, establishing near the mouth of the Perak river several factories, which the Malays, from time to time, cut off and destroyed. The ruins of a factory opened in 1690 may still be seen at Pangkor. In 1765 the Sultan made a treaty with the Dutch.

British influence began early in the XIXth century. A treaty with Penang in 1818 secured to British subjects the right to free trade in Perak. In 1825 a British arbitrator settled the boundary between Perak and Selangor. By the Burney Treaty with Siam in 1826, the independence of Perak and Selangor was recognized, though the Sultan of Perak was permitted to send tribute to Siam if he desired. In the same year, the Sultan ceded to the British the Dindings and the Island of Pangkor as posts for the suppression of piracy, and agreed to rely solely on the protection of Great Britain. From 1872 to 1874 there was almost continuous fighting of more or less severity between rival factions of Chinese in the Larut district where valuable tin deposits had been found.

Having regard to the anarchy which prevailed, Sir Andrew Clarke, in 1874, induced the Perak chiefs to sign the Pangkor Treaty, and to accept thereby a Resident whose

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advice should be "asked and acted upon on all questions other than those touching Malay religion and custom". The murder of the first British Resident (Mr. J. W. Birch) in 1875 led to a military expedition. The country soon settled; and the Malay constitution was restored under a Sultan protected by the British Government. The present Ruler is His Highness Paduka Sri Sultan Iskandar Shah, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., ibni Al-Marhum Al-Sultan Idris.

Selangor.

In the XIVth century, Klang, which is now a district of Selangor, is said to have been subject to the Javanese Empire of Majapahit. In the next century, it was given a Penghulu of the family of the Bendaharas of old Malacca, and a son of Sultan Mansur Shah (1458-1477 A.D.) of Malacca by a Chinese wife was made Ruler of Jeram near Langat. During the period of Portuguese ascendency, little is known of the Selangor coast. Barbosa speaks of "much and good tin" won in Selangor. The Dutch opened factories for the purchase of tin at Kuala Selangor and at Kuala Linggi. In 1718 A.D., Daeng Chelak, a Bugis chief, who had married a Johore princess, settled at Kuala Selangor, and about 1780 their descendant was recognized as Sultan Salehu'd-din by the Ruler of Perak. The throne has remained in the same family ever since. After the failure of an attack on Malacca by a Bugis prince of Riau, Raja Haji, in 1783, the Dutch blockaded Kuala Selangor, and forced the Sultan to acknowledge the suzerainty of Holland.

In 1818, the Sultan of Selangor made a commercial treaty with the East India Company at Penang. In 1874, anarchy prevailed amongst the Malay chiefs of Selangor, and pirates ravaged the coastal trade. The Sultan's difficulties were such that he was glad to accept a British Resident, and to come under the protection of Great Britain. The present Ruler is His Highness Sultan Ala'idin Sulaiman Shah, G.C.M.G., ibni Al-Marhum Raja Muda Musa.

Negri Sembilan.

This federation of "Nine States" consists of the four major States of Sungai Ujong, Jelebu, Johol and Rembau, and the five minor States of Ulu Muar, Jempul, Terachi, Gunong Pasir and Inas. Sungai Ujong is mentioned in a Javanese poem in 1365 A.D. as being subject to the Javanese Empire of Majapahit. In the XVth century, it was ruled by Chiefs of the old kingdom of Malacca. Nearly all the Malay inhabitants of the "Nine States" are descended from immigrants from Menangkabau in Sumatra, and have an interesting matrilineal

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sociological system. Portuguese accounts prove that this immigration had begun in the XVIth century. The evidence seems conclusive that the original Malay federation consisted of Sungai Ujong, Klang (now a district of Selangor), Jelebu, Rembau, Naning (now part of Malacca), Segamat (now in Johore), Pasir Besar (also in Johore, its place having been taken by Johol), Jelai (now Inas) and Ulu Pahang, the region between the Ulu Serting and Temerloh. After the wresting of Malacca from the Portuguese by the Dutch and the Johore Malays in 1641 A.D., Johore took a leading part in Negri Sembilan politics until 1773 A.D., when the Undang or Chiefs of the four major States brought from Sumatra a Yam Tuan named Raja Melewar, ancestor of the present Yang di-pertuan Besar.

In 1874, the Dato' Klana, Chief of Sungai Ujong, the most important of the "Nine States" invited and obtained the assistance of the British Government to maintain his rule, and the appointment of a British Resident. In 1883, Jelebu applied for a British officer; and Rembau agreed to refer all its disputes to the British Government, and in 1887 accepted a British adviser. In 1889, the Yam Tuan of Sri Menanti and the Rulers of Tampin and Rembau asked for a Resident, and agreed to a confederation known as "The Old Negri Sembilan". In 1895, the Resident of this confederation took charge of Sungai Ujong and of Jelebu, and the modern Negri Sembilan was constituted. Finally, in 1898, the Yam Tuan of Sri Menanti was elected titular Ruler of the whole State. The present Ruler is His Highness Muhammad, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., ibni Al-Marhum Antah, Yang di-pertuan Besar, Negri Sembilan.

Pahang.

Chao Ju Kua, a Chinese, writing about 1225 A.D., mentions Pahang as being subject to the old Sumatran Buddhist kingdom of Sri Vijaya. Later, Pahang and Tioman are claimed as conquests of Majapahit. Chinese records of the XVth century speak of the people of Pahang making human sacrifices. The "Malay Annals" tell of a town, Pura, near the estuary of the Pahang river, and mention the gold dust, the elephants and the wild oxen of the country. In the XVth century, Sultan Mansur Shah of Malacca captured the Ruler of Pahang, and married his daughter. Modern Muhammadan Pahang starts with Rulers of the royal house of Malacca. In 1618, the redoubtable Mahkota Alam raided Pahang, and carried off one of its Rulers, who became father of a Sultan of Acheh. Before the old Malacca royal house died out in 1699, its Pahang branch provided several Rulers for the senior throne of Johore, which

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directly represented the Malacca dynasty. Later, Pahang fell under the suzerainty of the new Sultans of Johore, who, when they removed to Lingga, left a Dato' Bendahara in charge of Pahang.

In 1887, Sir Frederick Weld negotiated a treaty with the Bendahara of Pahang, promising British help in the event of external attack, and arranging for a British agent to be stationed at his capital. At the same time, the title of Sultan was substituted for that of Dato' Bendahara. In 1888, the Sultan applied for and obtained British protection, and the appointment of a Resident. The present Ruler is His Highness Al-Mu'tasim Bi'llah Al-Sultan Abdullah, K.C.M.G., ibni Al-Marhum Al-Sultan Ahmad Al-Maazam Shah.

Constitution of the States.

The supreme authority in each State is vested in the Sultan, or the Ruler, in State Council. His Highness the Sultan or the Ruler presides over the State Council. The British Resident is a member, and in Perak and in Selangor the Secretary to Resident is also a member. The other members consist of members of the royal family, the leading chiefs and some Chinese—in Perak an Indian now sits on the Council. Since the creation of a Federal Council, the State Councils legislate only in matters affecting the State.

The Federation.

In 1895, a Treaty was signed by the Rulers of the four States by which they agreed to constitute their countries into a Federation, which was to be known as the Federated Malay States, and to be administered under the advice of the British Government, while all existing treaties and arrangements were to stand. The States agreed to the appointment of an officer to be styled Resident-General (a title which has since been altered to Chief Secretary to Government) as the agent and representative of the British Government under the Governor of the Straits Settlements. They agreed to follow his advice in all matters of administration other than those touching the Muhammadan religion, provided that the relations between the Malay Rulers and the British Residents remained unaffected. In 1909, a Federal Council was created in order to give effect to a desire for the joint arrangement of all matters of common interest to the Federation or affecting more than one State, and for the proper enactment of all laws intended to have force throughout the Federation or any more than one State. The Federal Council, as now constituted, consists of the High Commissioner for the

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Malay States (an appointment held ex officio by the Governor of the Straits Settlements) as President, the Chief Secretary to Government, Federated Malay States, the four British Residents, the Legal Adviser, the Financial Adviser, the Principal Medical Officer, the Controller of Labour, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Education, the Commissioner, Trade and Customs, one Official Member nominated by the High Commissioner, and twelve Unofficial Members, who are nominated by the High Commissioner with the approval of His Majesty the King. The Federal Council generally meets at least three times a year. All Federal legislation is passed by it, and the estimates of expenditure and revenue require its approval.

GEOGRAPHY.

Perak is the northernmost of the three States on the West Coast of the Peninsula. It comprises 7,800 square miles. On the North, it borders with Province Wellesley (Straits Settlements), Kedah and Siam; and on the East, it is separated from Kelantan and Pahang by the main range of granite mountains that form the backbone of the Peninsula. The Perak river (170 miles long) is the principal river of the State. On the North, the Krian river is the boundary with Kedah; and on the South, the Bernam river separates the State from Selangor. The highest mountain is Korbu (7,160 feet). The capital of the State is Taiping.

Selangor (3,150 square miles), also on the West Coast, is separated from Pahang on the East by the mountain range, and from Negri Sembilan by the Sepang river. Its highest peak is Ulu Kali (5,820 feet). Port Swettenham, the principal harbour of the Federated Malay States, is situated on the estuary of the Klang River in this State. Kuala Lumpur, the Federal capital, and also the capital of the State, is situated some thirty miles further up the Klang River.

Negri Sembilan, south of Selangor, comprises 2,550 square miles. On the South, it borders with Johore, and on the East, with Pahang. In the southern part of the State, the great mountain range has disappeared, and the water-parting between the West and East Coast is merely hilly, and in places is nearly flat ground. The highest peak in Negri Sembilan is Telapak Burok (3,915 feet). Seremban is the capital.

Pahang, the only State of the Federation on the East Coast, comprises 14,000 square miles. It is bordered on the South by Johore, on the West by Negri Sembilan, Selangor and Perak, and on the North by Trengganu and Kelantan. The highest mountain in the Peninsula (Tahan, 7,184 feet) is in this State.

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CLIMATE.

The temperature on the western side of the main range of mountains which forms the backbone of the Malay Peninsula has little appreciable variation throughout the year. At Kuala Lumpur—a fairly typical station—the mean maximum temperature is 90°F. and the mean minimum 72°F., giving a range of 18°F.

On the East Coast, however, the North-East Monsoon, lasting from November to March, causes a distinct meteorological contrast with the rest of the year as regards wind and rainfall. As the temperature is high and the variation so small the rain which cools and freshens the atmosphere is a most important factor in the comfort of life in the Malay Peninsula. The rain is generally of a torrential nature and most of it falls between the hours of noon and 8 p.m., 5 p.m. being the wettest hour of the day. Records from stations on the West Coast of the Peninsula, where the South-West Monsoon is broken by the high land of Sumatra, show that April and October are the wettest months. There is a decrease from April to July which is the driest month, rising to a second peak in October and decreasing to moderate rainfall in January. Although there are no very clearly defined wet and dry seasons as occur in some other tropical countries and rain falls the whole year round, it does divide itself into periods, March, April, May and October, November, December are wet months, February, June, July and August dry, while September and January are months of variable and moderate rainfall. Even to this general rule there are considerable variations due to abnormalities in the time of change of the monsoons.

On the West Coast of the Peninsula the coastal stations are the driest, the average rainfall being about 85 inches. This gradually increases inland, and the stations close to the foot of the main range of mountains show an average fall of about 105 inches. On the East side of the Peninsula, which is exposed to the full force of the North-East Monsoon blowing in from the China Sea, the coastal stations are much the wettest, having a mean rainfall of about 130 inches.

It is heaviest during December and January during which months the North-East Monsoon is at its height. Landwards the fall gradually diminishes, until, at the eastern side of the main range the stations show a mean of 95 inches. On this side of the Peninsula, October, November, December, January

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are the wet months with a steady decrease till July—which again is the driest month—and a gradual increase culminating in December—the wettest month. In the mountains the rainfall is comparatively high, particularly in the Larut Hills above Taiping, where the average at "The Cottage" (4,513 feet) for the years 1904-1929, is 245 inches. Taiping at the foot of these hills, has the highest rainfall of the low-level stations with an average of 166 inches. The Larut Hills are however exceptional, as the average for other hill stations of approximately the same altitude, but situated in the main range of mountains, is for Fraser's Hill (4,289 feet) and Cameron's Highlands (4,650 feet) 112 inches. The district of Jelebu, situated in the northern part of Negri Sembilan, and sheltered from the influence of both North-East and South-West Monsoons, is the driest in the Peninsula, with an average rainfall in the years 1891-1929 of 65 inches. Negri Sembilan, owing to the absence of high mountains, has the lowest rainfall of the States of the Federation, the average of six typical stations being only 80 inches.

The heat, owing to the high relative humidity (80 per cent.), is at times oppressive, although 100°F. has never been recorded in the shade, and there is almost always a slight breeze to modify the heat. On the coast the nights are sometimes oppressive but inland are comparatively cool, and refreshing sleep is always possible without the aid of fans or punkahs. On the hill stations the temperature has been known to fall to 40°F. at night.

Charts and statistics, however, do not disclose two important features, viz., the brilliant sunshine which is the rule during the morning, and the dry spells—often extending to three or four weeks—when the grass becomes parched.

The Peninsula lies within the region of the South-West and North-East Monsoons, but owing to the barrier provided by Sumatra, the only really strong wind is the North-East Monsoon, which gathers velocity over the open space of the China Sea, but even this rarely attains gale force, and then only for short intervals.

Violent squalls known as "Sumatras" are not infrequent on the West Coast of the Peninsula between April and September. They are generally of short duration, occur mostly during the night or early morning and are often accompanied by severe thunderstorms and torrential rain.

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HILL STATIONS.

Cameron's Highlands.

Progress on development throughout the year was, on the whole, satisfactory.

The Development Committee met on six occasions.

A section of the road from the 15th to the 25th mile was opened to traffic during the year in successive stages of five miles, and a further five miles up to the 30th mile was within sight of completion.

Work on the extension of the main road from Ginting B to Parit Falls was put in hand, and the earthwork on the Girdle Road was nearly completed.

Clearing, burning and grubbing of the recreation area progressed during the year, and about 120 acres was cleared and burned and a small area grubbed.

Eight miles of mule paths were constructed and maintained during the period under review.

Extensive surveys and reconnaissances were carried out and about 200 building sites selected and reported upon.

Halting bungalows were erected and furnished at Tanah Rata and Lubok Tamang.

The total sum of money expended was as follows :

Under Development Committee	$ 90,681
Main Road Construction	1,143,000
Public Works Department Other Charges, etc.	19,137
	$1,252,818

Fraser's Hill.

The Development Committee met on four occasions.

The new Rest-house was completed and brought into use. This acquisition to the accommodation on the hill is much appreciated and will serve a most useful purpose. A new bungalow "Kindersley", a three-stalled garage for the "Lodge", four tennis courts and a playing ground for children were completed.

The golf links, one of the centres of attraction, were efficiently maintained, as well as the numerous paths and other amenities provided for the comfort of visitors.

The dairy and agricultural gardens were taxed to their utmost to provide requirements, and an extension of these essential services is now under consideration.

This station proved very popular throughout the year, and the change of climate and environment was enjoyed by a large number of visitors.

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The expenditure during the year was as follows :

Under the Development Committee ...	...	$ 46,243
Under Public Works Department ...	...	135,423
		$181,666

Bukit Kutu.

Bukit Kutu Hill, 3,458 feet in height, is a western spur of the main range looking down on the old town of Kuala Kubu. From its isolated position it enjoys a drier climate than Fraser's Hill and the advantage of a very extensive view. The hill is a reserve for the preservation of animals and birds.

A path was constructed from Kuala Kubu and the first bungalow built in 1895 from granite and timber obtained on the spot at a cost of $6,550. In 1904-5 a second bungalow was built at the cost of $9,985.

The encroachment of silt from the Selangor River during the last few years had increased the length of old path to $8\frac{3}{4}$ miles and in 1929 a shorter path was constructed from Peretak which reduces the walk up the hill to five miles.

Gunong Angsi.

This is a small hill station in Negri Sembilan containing only a single bungalow at a height of approximately 2,500 feet. It is approached from the Tampin-Seremban Road, and is reached by a good bridle-path.

Gunong Tahan.

The establishment of a hill station at Gunong Tahan in Pahang was first considered in 1912, and Sir Arthur Young, then High Commissioner for the Malay States, led an expedition to the mountain, with a view to investigating its possibilities. As a result of this visit, a topographical survey was carried out in 1913, and surveys were made for a road and railway connection. The length of the line from the junction of the Pahang-Kelantan line was approximately 30 miles, of which 20 miles were to be constructed as an ordinary railway, and 10 miles as a rack railway. The outbreak of the war prevented further progress with the scheme. Meteorological observations were taken from July, 1921, to July, 1923. The rainfall for the first year was 137.78 inches, and for the second year 161.69 inches. The wettest month was January, 1923, with 29 inches, and the driest was February, 1923, with 2.43 inches. The highest maximum temperature recorded was 76°F. on three occasions, and the lowest minimum temperature 48°F. There appears to be no record of investigations into the area available for residential

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purposes or for cultivation. When the revised programme of works in connection with the Loan Account was prepared in 1921, the provision for the railway to Gunong Tahan was omitted, and the proposal for the development of Gunong Tahan as a hill station is, for the present at least, abandoned.

Kledang.

This hill near Ipoh, Perak, is 2,646 feet above sea-level, and has only two bungalows. It is reached by a large road to the foot of the hill, and a good bridle-path, 4½ miles long, leads to the bungalows.

Maxwell's Hill.

Maxwell's Hill is situated on the mountain range near Taiping, the capital of Perak, and is named after the late Sir William Maxwell, K.C.M.G., who, as Assistant Resident, first made a clearing there. At the Tea Gardens (2,152 feet) on the way up, there is a bungalow with eight bed-rooms. At Maxwell's Hill itself there are six comfortable bungalows at an elevation of between 3,400 and 3,650 feet. "The Cottage" (the bungalow of the Chief Secretary to Government) and "The Box" (the bungalow of the British Resident, Perak) are on two peaks at heights of 4,530 feet and 4,076 feet respectively. The rainfall of the hill is high, but the flower gardens are attractive, and the dairy and vegetable gardens are well maintained.

PRINCIPAL LANGUAGES.

The principal languages spoken are English, Malay, Tamil and Chinese. The lingua franca is Malay.

CURRENCY.

The unit of currency is the silver dollar which is divided into 100 cents. The value of the dollar is fixed at present at two shillings and four pence. Subsidiary silver coins are those of value 50 cents, 20 cents, 10 cents and 5 cents. There is also a nickel 5-cent coin and copper or mixed metal coins of 1 cent denomination.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

English, Malay and Chinese weights and measures are used. A pikul (equivalent to 133⅓ lbs.) is sub-divided in 100 katties of 16 tahils each. A koyan consists of 40 pikuls and is equivalent to 5,333⅓ lbs. avoirdupois. A gantang is the equivalent of one gallon and a chupak is equal to a quart.

Chinese equivalents to a tahil, a kati, a pikul and a koyan are a leong, a kan, a tam and si sap tam, respectively. Chinese equivalents to a chupak and a gantang are a chup put and a tang, respectively.

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1929.

I.—GENERAL.

The Federated Malay States enjoyed on the whole a prosperous year, but the prices of tin and rubber declined with depressing monotony towards the close owing to increased production and bad trade conditions throughout the world, and at the time of writing the situation is distinctly grave. Steps are being taken by the Tin Producers' Association to regulate the output of tin, and the rubber industry has arranged a general cessation of tapping for a month. Whether such efforts will have the desired result in raising the price of these commodities to an economic level is perhaps doubtful, but it is at least an encouraging sign that the producers are prepared to combine and showing a welcome unanimity of purpose.

II.—FINANCE.

Budget for 1929.

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1929 provided for a revenue of $69,975,951 (excluding Railway revenue) and an expenditure (excluding Railway expenditure on Revenue Account and expenditure on Loan Account) of $95,331,438.

Actual revenue and expenditure.

The actual revenue for the year (including the net revenue Railway) was $81,799,584 and the expenditure was $84,660,975. Thus the deficit was $2,861,391 against an estimated deficit of $25,355,487.

The excesses in revenue as compared with the estimate were :

Customs	$ 4,624,448
Forests	133,761
Lands and Mines	119,680
Licences and Internal Revenue	1,233,040
Fees of Court or Office, etc.	1,000,503
Municipal	430,846
Light, Water and Power	113,660
Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones	134,655
Railways (Net Receipts)	1,812,827
Rent on Government Property	104.285
Interest	185,538
Miscellaneous	207,856
Land Sales	1,166,516
Sale of Property	548,787
Total ...	$12,417,402

The shortages in revenue as compared with the estimate amounted to $593,769 as under :

Excise	$537,844
Timber and Minor Forest Products	55,925
Total ...	$593,769

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The shortage in Excise revenue was arrived at as follows :

	Shortage.	Excess.
Sale of Chandu	$600,193	—
Other items	—	$62,349

Net shortage $537,844.

The shortage in Sale of Timber under "Timber and Minor Forest Products" was $55,599.

The total savings in expenditure amounted to $11,647,064, the largest items being :

Pensions	$ 349,073
Customs and Excise	287,099
Municipal	473,807
Posts and Telegraphs	875,558
Railways	2,333,357
Agricultural Department	100,407
Clerical Service	128,879
Education	431,025
Electrical Department	215,482
Electrical Department, S.S.	415,745
Medical	715,386
Military	330,353
Miscellaneous, Unreserved	222,705
Police	182,177
Public Works Department	375,425
Public Works—Annually Recurrent	370,960
Public Works—Special Services	2,859,650
Surveys	281,650
	$10,948,738

Excesses over estimated expenditure totalled $976,601, the largest items being :

Rulers and Native Officers	$218,980
Forest Department	516,422
Miscellaneous, Reserved	44,806
Marine	53,330
Transport	88,050
	$921,588

The excess under Rulers and Native Officers is due to the introduction of revised scales of salaries, while that under Forest Department is caused by the transfer to expenditure account in 1929 of stock of timber on 31st December, 1928, previously debited to a suspense account.

Public debt.

The public debt remained as on 31st December, 1928, at $80,185,714, and consists of the Straits Settlements Sterling Loan of £9,355,000. The first instalment of this loan (£5,155,000) was issued in December, 1921, at 97, bearing interest at 6 per cent., and the second instalment (£4,200,000) in May, 1922, at 95, bearing interest at 4½ per cent. The Sinking Funds, contributions to which started in 1925, amounted to $11,031,088.

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The following statement shows the assets and liabilities on the 31st December, 1929: Assets and liabilities.

LIABILITIES.		$ c.	ASSETS.		$ c.
Capital Account (Straits Settlements Sterling Loan) Balance at credit thereof (*a*)		1,909,463 55	Cash in Treasuries and Banks as per distribution statement		4,464,134 04
Sundry Outstanding Accounts		437,476 23	Cash with Agencies—		
Due to India (Agency Account)		127,660 14	Crown Agents	$ 11,237.14	
,, ,, (Current Account)		82,867 11	Malayan Information Agency	6,115.37	
Ceylon Agency Account		29,795 41	Penang Agency	43,114.44	
Family Remittances		4,437 03	Singapore Agency	238,803.93	
					299,270 88
S.S. Government War Service Land Grant Scheme		5,278 03	Cash in Transit		333,905 93
			Fixed Deposits		23,100,000 00
Deposits—			Joint Colonial Fund		7,349,999 99
Courts	$491,370.25		Investments (Surplus Funds)—		
Forests	322,785.78		S.S. Municipal Debentures (at cost)	$ 6,500.00	
Lands	476,875.65		Sterling Securities	10,839,793.66	
Postal	273,941.02		Perak River Hydro-Electric Power Co., Ltd.	4,928,571.43	
Postal A/c Store—Colony	300,000.00		Nipah Distilleries of Malaya Ltd.	42,857.15	
Planters' Loan Board	525,000.00			15,817,722.24	
Miscellaneous	889,017.44		Less Redemption Reserve	30,334.00	
		3,188,990 14			15,787,388 24
Railway Renewals Reserve		10,733,538 39	Investment—Singapore Naval Base Contribution Account		6,857,142 85
Sundry Funds—			Investment—Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund		20,551,519 25
Bailey Fund	$ 900.00		Investments (Specific Fund) (at cost)—		
Police Fine, etc., Fund	36,534.43		Bailey Fund	$ 900.00	
Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	280,230.10		Police Fine and Reward Fund	33,340.83	
Malayan Flood Relief Fund	55,505.67		Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	275,283.62	
Victoria Institution Building Fund	104,105.94		Malayan Flood Relief Fund	55,505.67	
Composition Stamp Duty Fund	314,888.65		V. I. Building Fund	103,205.94	
Phillips Agricultural School Scholarship Fund	4,338.39		Security Deposits Account	9,027.97	
Miscellaneous	42,102.78		Phillips Agricultural School Scholarship Fund	4,338.39	
		838,605 96	Composition Stamp Duty Fund, 4½ per cent. with Crown Agents	314,888.65	
					796,491 07
War Savings Certificates, 1924-1927		280 00	Family Remittances		1,199 98
Singapore Naval Base Contribution Account		6,857,142 85	Due by other Governments—		
			Ceylon	$ 891.07	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund		20,948,990 26	Crown Agents	1,465.68	
Suspense		84,610 31	Johore	34,483.83	
			Kedah	1,653.23	
Capital Fund—Bagan Serai Rice Mill		382,429 73	Kelantan	4,840.76	
			Singapore	28,155.98	
Capital Fund—Kuala Kurau Rice Mill		250,000 00	Trengganu	15,976.35	
					87,466 90
Capital Fund—F. M. S. Government Factory		400,000 00	Sundry Outstanding Accounts		59,991 93
Surplus—			Loans—		
Reserved for Railway Capital Expenditure and Public Works, Special Services	$36,598,849.00		Siamese Government (*b*)	$33,745,204.09	
Balance unallocated	43,419,724.97		Brunei Government	399,000.00	
		80,018,573 97	Planters	1,891,267.23	
			War Service Land Grant Scheme	1,733,590.77	
			Agricultural	46,210.91	
			Buildings	399,103.59	
			Miscellaneous	1,704,264.66	
					39,918,641 25
			Advances		131,980 76
			Imprests		94,020 85
			Bentong Tailing Retention Scheme		240,031 16
			Stores and Materials Account, Railways		3,386,926 20
			,, ,, ,, Post Office		962,033 36
			,, ,, ,, P.W.D.		142,130 51
			,, ,, ,, Electrical Board		551,905 70
			,, ,, ,, Timber Branch		9,211 25
			,, ,, ,, Marine Slipway		47,365 01
			Marine Slipway Account		15,064 74
			Inter-Treasury Accounts		63 63
			Suspense		70,175 18
			Bagan Serai Rice Mill		382,429 73
			Kuala Kurau Rice Mill		250,000 00
			F.M.S. Government Factory		400,000 00
			Miscellaneous Stock Accounts		9,648 72
		126,300,139 11			126,300,139 11

NOTES:

(*a*) The Straits Settlements Sterling Loan, the first two instalments of which totalling £9,355,000 ($80,185,714.29) have been fully subscribed, appears on the credit side of the Capital Account (*vide* Appendix B). The expenses of issue of the loan and expenditure on works authorised to be carried out from loan funds appear on the debit side of the same account, the loan being repayable by Sinking Fund, the instalments of which are provided out of revenue.

(*b*) Repayment of this loan of $39,685,714.30 by 26 yearly instalments commenced on 1st January, 1924.

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The Loan to Siam.

The loan to the Siamese Government of £4,630,000 ($39,685,714) which is repayable by 26 annual instalments beginning on the 1st January, 1924, stood at $33,745,204 on the 31st December, 1929, having been reduced by the payment of the sixth instalment due on 1st January, 1929. As this loan is being repaid by equal yearly payments to include both principal and interest, the principal part of the instalments will steadily increase.

Loans to Perlis and Brunei.

The loan to Perlis which stood at $50,000 on 31st December, 1928, has been repaid in full, while that to Brunei, which stood at $403,000 on 31st December, 1928, has been reduced to $399,000 by the payment of the annual instalment due in 1929.

Surplus.

The surplus on 31st December, 1928, was $82,879,965. As the expenditure for the year exceeded the revenue by $2,861,391, the surplus was reduced to $80,018,574 on 31st December, 1929, of which a sum of $36,598,849 has been reserved for Railway capital expenditure and public works, leaving a balance of $43,419,725 unallocated on 31st December, 1929.

The liquid assets, comprising cash, fixed deposits, Joint Colonial Fund and easily realisable investments amounted to $46,393,605 at the end of the year, as compared with $46,304,028 at the beginning. This does not take into consideration the investments earmarked for certain specific funds.

Singapore Naval Base.

To meet payments of the contribution of £2,000,000 towards the cost of the Singapore Naval Base, investments worth £2,000,000 were set aside in 1926 to form a specific fund. Up to the 31st December, 1929, payments amounting in all to £1,200,000 had been made to the Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry, leaving a balance on the fund of £800,000.

Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund.

The Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund stood at $20,948,990 on 31st December, 1929, of which $20,551,519 was represented by investments and the balance by cash awaiting investment. This fund was started with $10,000,000 provided out of revenue in 1925, to which has been added 15 per cent. of the annual revenue from chandu sales together with the accumulated interest. The yearly contributions from revenue were as follows:

1926	$2,385,616
1927	2,242,500
1928	1,906,521
1929	1,859,971
	$8,394,608

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The Railway Renewals Reserve Fund stood at $10,733,538 on 31st December, 1929. The contribution added in respect of the year 1929 was $5,355,876. Railway Renewals Reserve Fund.

A statement of sterling loan capital account is published as Appendix B to this report. Of the total proceeds of the two instalments amounting to $74,297,549, expenditure on railway and other works up to 31st December, 1929, accounted for $72,388,086, leaving a balance of $1,909,463 still available to meet capital expenditure during 1930. This balance is in excess of the estimated balance of $1,700,000, due to a refund of about $200,000 made by the Railway. Sterling loan capital account.

III.—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

The establishment of the Department of Agriculture including the Director of Agriculture comprised 46 European Officers. Of these 30 were on the research staff, one was Agricultural Instructor, and one was seconded for service in Johore. Five of these appointments were not filled, while two officers were seconded, one to the Rubber Research Institute and the other to the Co-operative Department. Staff.

At the beginning of the year the title of Director of Agriculture was substituted for that of Secretary for Agriculture and Dr. H. A. Tempany, formerly Director of Agriculture, Mauritius, was appointed to the post.

During the year much attention was devoted to the organisation of the department and to the question of formulating a definite agricultural policy. Organisation and policy.

An attempt was made to survey the various lines of activities of the department and to put forward proposals co-ordinating the work of the different divisions and laying down a definite line of policy for the future. These proposals included the reorganisation of the work of a number of divisions and occupied a considerable amount of time.

The area under rubber in the Federated Malay States at the end of 1929 was estimated to be 1,461,300 acres; the export from the Federated Malay States was 261,353 tons for the year and the average price of smoked sheet during the first quarter was 38 cents per pound, after which time the price gradually declined to 35 cents in August, 34 in September, 31 in October and 25 cents in November. There were signs of a slight rally in Rubber.

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December, but prices declined again towards the end of the year, when kampong unsmoked sheet was being sold at $27 a pikul, which is equivalent to slightly over 20 cents a pound.

The chief feature is the continued interest taken in budding. There has been a large increase in the importation of budwood of high yielding clones from the Dutch East Indies and considerable quantities of budwood are also being raised in this country.

Manuring problems are also attracting increased attention; investigations indicate that on certain types of soil potash is deficient and it is anticipated that the application of potash fertilisers will produce results of economic value.

Much interest is also being taken in the question of soil conservation on a number of estates.

No new disease of importance has been reported. Mouldy Rot still continues the most important disease and requires constant attention on the part of the inspection staff. Attention may be drawn to the increase in the incidence of Mildew leaf disease caused by *Oidium Hevea*, and areas in several districts during the year were reported as being affected with secondary or abnormal leaf fall, which was diagnosed as due to oidium.

Considerable interest is being taken in replanting problems on estates on which the tapping systems, loss of soil and root diseases are responsible for decreasing yields of latex. The most difficult problem is that of the reconditioning of soils for replanting.

Interest is being taken in the problem of the substitution of air-dried sheet for smoked sheet and experimental work on this question is being carried out. The export of concentrated latex (Revertex) is increasing.

Padi.

The area planted with *padi* in the Federated Malay States was approximately 175,227 acres, from which a crop of approximately thirty-one and a half million gantangs was obtained. In Krian planting was very late. On the whole the 1928-1929 season must be considered a poor one owing to the very poor crop harvested in Krian, which is the most important *padi* area in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, although fair yields were obtained over a large part of Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang. Considerable damage was recorded by stem borers in the Krian area. The investigation of *padi* borers was undertaken by the Entomological Division and work was started on the possibility of controlling these insects by means of the breeding and liberation of the parasites,

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Trichogramma sp. The selected strains of Krian *padi* continue to give satisfactory results, but in spite of the fact that considerable quantities of seed were distributed, the planting of these strains has not as yet become by any means general. Experiments were continued on the storage of rice and results so far to hand indicate that, given adequate protection from insect pests, rice can be stored in good condition for a period up to 12 months. The campaign for the destruction of rats in the Krian area was continued throughout the year, 601,481 tails being collected.

Coconuts.

A further decline in the price of copra was recorded. For fair merchantable quality the Singapore market opened at $10 per pikul and by the middle of the year fell to $8 per pikul, thereafter showing a slight upward tendency, until by the end of the year prices ranged round $9 per pikul.

The nettle caterpillar, *Setora nitens*, appeared in fairly large numbers in Lower Perak, the attack being more prolonged and serious than usual. Measures of control were carried out in conjunction with planters in the district. A series of local outbreaks of the leaf eating caterpillar, *Artona catoxantha*, occurred in Krian, East Pahang and Johore.

The question of the quality of Malayan copra continued to attract attention and a scheme was instituted for research work on this subject, an Assistant Chemist being specially appointed. The cost of this research is partly contributed by the Empire Marketing Board. Arrangements were concluded for taking a census of coconuts in connection with the World's Agricultural Census, 1930.

Oil palms.

The oil palm industry continued to expand. The total area planted in the Federated Malay States is 22,558 acres. The production of palm-oil for the year was 1,819 tons, while the figure for palm kernels was 301 tons. Experimental work on the crop was continued by the Department of Agriculture and a palm-oil factory was erected at Serdang to handle the crop planted at the Experiment Station and enable experiments in manufacture to be carried out.

Tea.

At the end of 1929 the total area planted with tea amounted to about 600 acres. Interest continues to attach to tea cultivation, particularly in the Cameron's Highlands area. Plans have been formulated for the extension of investigations on the crop, and arrangements have been made for the despatch of a trained Agriculturist to Ceylon, Southern India and Assam, for the purpose of studying tea cultivation and manufacture in those centres.

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Pineapples.

The total area planted with pineapples was estimated to be 477 acres. Considerable attention has been paid during the year to the extension of the market for pineapples by means of exhibits and demonstrations given at various exhibitions, the Empire Marketing Board and the Malayan Information Agency collaborating in the work, with the assistance of the Department of Agriculture in Malaya. The question of establishing an experiment station for the investigation of problems in relation to pineapple cultivation received consideration during the year.

Coffee.

Interest in coffee cultivation was maintained; scope exists for a considerable increase in the planted area to meet local demands. Exports from the Federated Malay States amounted to 2,433 tons. Considerable damage was recorded from certain estates owing to the attack of the beetle berry, *Cryphalus hampei* Ferr. Its distribution is apparently confined to Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Malacca.

Government Experimental Plantation.

The total area opened at the plantation was 800 acres. The work of the Experimental Station was maintained on the same lines as in previous years and continues to prove of considerable interest, numerous visits being paid by planters. A further area of 30 acres of tea was laid down, while improvements were introduced in relation to the stock farm, and a small laboratory for work in connection with the oil palm investigation was built.

Experimental Station at Cameron's Highlands.

The Experimental Station at Cameron's Highlands was maintained. It was decided during the year, owing to the requirements of the military authorities, to remove the station from the present site at Tanah Rata to Ringlet.

Soils.

The soil survey of the Peninsula has been continued and work has been extended during 1929 to alluvial soils.

School of Agriculture.

The erection of the School of Agriculture at Serdang was begun. It is anticipated that the school will be ready for occupation in May, 1931.

Forestry.

General.

With the completion of the Forest Research Institute at Kepong and the opening of the timber-testing laboratories at Sentul, the forest organisation is now well provided with equipment to deal with the many-sided problems of forest research. The provision of personnel for research, in particular for the conduct of silvicultural investigations and the preparation of working plans, is still a matter of some difficulty. Progress

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was made with the project for departmental timber operations at Palong, notwithstanding certain delaying factors, such as the necessity which became apparent for a change in the mill site.

Staff. The retirement in December of Mr. G. E. S. Cubitt, to whose vision and initiative is due so much of the success achieved in organising the forest resources of the country as a permanent and productive asset, is recorded with regret.

At the close of the year the senior staff of all three branches of the Forest Department consisted of 44 officers, exclusive of one probationer under training at the Imperial Forestry Institute. Three officers retired, one was killed in an air accident while returning from leave, and one was invalided out of the service. There were four new appointments to the Forest Branch, and one to the Timber Branch. Two Assistant Conservators remained seconded to Johore and one to Kedah.

The strength of the locally engaged English-speaking staff was fifteen officers in all, five Extra Assistant Conservators and ten Sub-Assistants, including probationers; the number is considerably below requirements. One Extra Assistant was seconded from the Forest to the Timber Branch throughout the year.

The sanctioned strength of the subordinate staff was 517 exclusive of about 75 clerks, 46 boatmen, the permanent labour force and menials. The figure given for clerks does not include the temporary clerical staff of the Timber Branch.

Reserved forest. The work of exploration and formation of reserves proceeded normally and the year closed with 6,271 square miles of forest reserved and 1,182 square miles proposed for reservation. A large part of the reserved area consists of protective forest on steep slopes and at high elevations, much of which will never be capable of producing timber. Except in a tract of limited extent, where some reserves will be needed for the supply of local requirements, reservation in the three western States is approaching finality.

Output. The outturn of timber, fuel and charcoal, exclusive of free supply, was 806,333 tons as against 801,348 in 1928. The consumption of firewood again decreased owing to the depressed condition of the tin market and the intensifying competition of coal, oil and electricity. Twenty-four per cent. of the timber and 56 per cent. of the fuel produced was derived from reserves. The depletion of State lands is proceeding steadily and is far advanced in Perak.

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There was a considerable decline in revenue from minor produce, mainly owing to the depressed condition of the *damar* market. There was however an increased output of *jelutong*, and the prospects in this direction are hopeful. Chemical research, mainly in the minor forest products, continued with satisfactory results, and Forest Record No. 7 "Mangrove Bark as a Tanning Material", by Dr. T. A. Buckley, Forest Chemist, was published during the year.

Publications.

Mr. J. G. Watson's treatise on "Mangrove Forests of the Malay Peninsula" (Forest Record No. 6) appeared early in the year. It represents the fruits of many years' work and will contribute materially to the efficient management of a valuable forest asset.

Mining.

Export of tin.

The export of tin-ore, reduced to a metallic basis, and of block tin during the year was 67,041 tons compared with 61,935 tons in 1928 and 52,179 tons in 1927. The export of tin-ore represents about 98.5 per cent. of the total. The 1929 exports were the highest ever recorded, exceeding the previous year's figure, which was a record, by over 5,000 tons. The export duty (in millions of dollars) was $14.5 in 1929, $15.1 in 1928, and $17.4 in 1927.

Price of tin.

The price of tin at the beginning of the year was $114.87½ per pikul. This improved to $115.50 by the 7th of February, which was the highest price quoted throughout the year. From then onwards the price deteriorated steadily, until the lowest price for the year was quoted, namely, $89.25 per pikul on the 8th December. This was the lowest figure to which the price had fallen since 1923.

At the close of the year the price was $90.75 per pikul. The average price for the year was $104.37½ per pikul, which was $9.81½ lower than the average price for 1928.

Fluctuations in price of tin.

The following table shows the fluctuations in the price of tin for the last seven years in dollars per pikul:

Heading.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Highest ...	121.00	148.00	145.50	157.50	159.00	131.50	115.50
Average ...	101.75	124.19	131.77½	144.59	144.93	114.18	104.37½
Lowest ...	88.50	100.75	116.00	131.75	127.37	103.62½	89.25

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Labour.

The labour force engaged in mining (including dulang pass holders) was 113,415 at the end of the year. The figures for the preceding three years were: in 1928, 119,550; in 1927, 130,424 and in 1926, 116,216. The total does not include labour employed on the extraction and transport of firewood.

Labour was plentiful and slightly cheaper than in 1928. There was a certain amount of unemployment but it was not serious.

Tungsten ores.

The export of tungsten ores (wolfram and scheelite) of Federated Malay States origin was as follows for this and the previous year:

	Wolfram.	Scheelite.
1929	44.1 tons	... 280 tons
1928	5.0 ,,	... Nil

The increased output was due to the enhanced price of the commodity.

Gold.

The production of gold from the Raub Gold Mines was 23,303 ounces as compared with 16,815 ounces in 1928. In addition alluvial gold was recovered in various places to the extent of 3,399 ounces.

Coal.

The production of coal from the Malayan Collieries Ltd., Selangor, was 661,514 tons, an increase of 104,924 tons on the previous year, while consumption was as follows:

Federated Malay States Railways	238,602 tons
Mines	297,486 ,,
Other Federated Malay States consumers ...	86,543 ,,
Exported	585 ,,
Consumed at the Collieries	38,298 ,,
Total ...	661,514 ,,

Other than the above there is no mine producing coal in the Federated Malay States.

Dredging.

The output from dredges again showed a substantial increase. The proportion of the total output so won was 38 per cent. as against 30 per cent. in 1928 and 24 per cent. in 1927.

At the end of 1929 the number of dredges at work was 105, the number under construction 10, and the number on order 8.

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Gravel pumps.

Gravel pump mining produced 41 per cent. of the total output. The number of such pumps in use at the end of 1929 was 618 as against 667 in 1928 and 645 in 1927.

Theft of ore.

One report only of theft of ore from a mine was made during the year. On investigation it appeared doubtful as to whether a theft had actually occurred. Only a small quantity of ore was involved.

"Bulletin of Statistics."

A "Bulletin of Statistics" relating to the mining industry was compiled and published monthly, the first number being issued in February. It is retailed to the public at 25 cents a copy and commands a ready sale.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Trade.

The aggregate value of trade for the year 1929 was $550,406,000, an increase of $80,409,047 or 17.11 per cent. as compared with the year 1928, chiefly due to the large increase in the quantity of rubber exported. The average price of rubber for the year was 34.45 cents per lb. The highest price was reached in March, when it averaged 42.94 cents per lb. In December the average price dropped to 26.53 cents per lb. The average price of standard tin for the year was $104.37½ per pikul. The peak was reached on 7th February, when it was $115.50 per pikul. On 8th December it dropped to $89.25 per pikul—the lowest price during the year.

The distribution of trade per head of the population was $352 as compared with $306 in 1928.

The total values of imports and exports (including re-exports, bullion, and parcels post) for the last six years are as follows :

Year.	Imports.	Exports and re-exports.	Favourable trade balance.
	$	$	$
1924 ...	97,436,302 ...	212,884,740 ...	115,448,438
1925 ...	137,116,207 ...	411,878,610 ...	274,762,403
1926 ...	173,887,724 ...	445,600,203 ...	271,712,479
1927 ...	176,161,194 ...	339,925,603 ...	163,764,409
1928 ...	191,473,471 ...	278,523,482 ...	87,050,011
1929 ...	201,393,405 ...	349,012,595 ...	147,619,190

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The percentage distribution of the import, export and re-export trade of the Federated Malay States for the last three years was as follows : Distribution of trade.

IMPORTS.

Countries from which imported.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Singapore	39.78	37.74	35.12
Penang	18.90	16.90	20.47
Malacca	1.06	1.26	1.92
Unfederated Malay States	1.11	1.18	2.07
United Kingdom	15.53	17.69	14.04
British Possessions	5.78	5.50	6.16
Continent of Europe	5.56	5.17	5.42
Other Foreign Countries	12.28	14.56	14.80
	100%	100%	100%

EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.

Countries to which exported.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Singapore	22.61	24.26	23.31
Penang	32.32	36.86	29.48
Malacca	2.58	2.47	1.89
Unfederated Malay States	.30	.28	.29
United Kingdom	18.22	10.69	12.73
British Possessions	1.08	1.06	1.34
United States of America	19.15	20.14	25.30
Other Foreign Countries	3.74	4.24	5.66
	100%	100%	100%

The total revenue collected by the Customs, Excise and Chandu Branches of the Trade and Customs Department amounted to $46,341,439 being an increase of $2,073,362 as compared with 1928. Revenue.

Import duties contributed $11,105,912 as against $8,821,237 collected in 1928. Import duties.

Export duties aggregated $19,990,300 as compared with $20,010,346 in 1928—a decrease of $20,046. Export duties.

Excise duties, licences, etc., produced $2,785,756 as against $2,475,000 in 1928—an increase of $310,751. Excise duties.

A new distillery with modern plant was erected during the year. The old inefficient methods of saccharification and fermentation were however still employed, and the very acid

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mash produced was found to dissolve copper from the distillation plant. Later on, lead in addition to copper was found in the distillate, the result apparently of cracks and joints in the worm being sealed with solder.

Investigations carried out by Mr. W. Caldwell, an Engineer-Chemist, whose services were employed for research, have resulted in the discovery of a process of distilling samsu from rice, which has been demonstrated on a laboratory scale to give most efficient results. It is hoped that the process will soon be developed on a commercial scale.

Opium.

The net revenue from the Chandu Monopoly was $12,392,378 as compared with $12,717,567 in 1928, being a decrease of $325,189.

Under minor headings the sum of $67,093 was collected.

Shipping.

The total number of vessels, exclusive of native craft, entered and cleared at the various ports of the Federated Malay States was 13,190 with a tonnage of 7,757,599½ shewing an increase of 1,518 and 652,989½ in number and tonnage, respectively, compared with the figures for the year 1928.

The number and tonnage of ocean-going steamers entered and cleared at Port Swettenham were 1,431 vessels and 5,623,425 tons as compared with 1,329 vessels and 5,076,855 tons in 1928, being an increase of 546,570 tons.

The number of ocean-going steamers which came alongside the wharf was 365 against 315 in the previous year.

The largest vessel entering the port was s.s. "Achilles" (British) of 11,426 tons, whilst the deepest draft vessel entering the port was s.s. "Afrika" (Danish) drawing 31′ 7″ of water.

Companies.

During the year 47 local companies with a total nominal capital of $23,602,658 were incorporated and registered as compared with 45 companies ($37,665,613) in 1928, 48 companies ($25,008,570) in 1927 and 56 companies ($35,764,500) in 1926.

The main objects of the new local companies were rubber, tea and coffee planting (10), mining (11), mining and rubber planting (6), exchange share brokers and agents (6), printing and publishing (2), and general trading (3).

One company for each of the following purposes was formed—coconut planting, cinema, sanatorium, banking, tailoring and hosiery, air services, motors and motor engineering, soap and aerated water manufacturing and oil extracting.

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The number of companies in liquidation in 1929 was 21, and during the year one local company was struck off the register as defunct.

There were 667 companies on the register at the end of the year.

Bankruptcy.

During the year 208 bankruptcy notices were issued, 88 bankruptcy petitions were filed, and 43 receiving orders and 39 adjudication orders were made.

Of the 39 persons adjudged bankrupt during the year, 17 were Chinese, 16 natives of India, four Malays, one Japanese and one Ceylonese. By occupation four were miners, ten traders, six clerks, five contractors, two landowners, two drivers, one milk-seller, one grass-cutter and eight miscellaneous.

There was an increase in the work in the States of Perak and Selangor as compared with the preceding years.

Three compositions were approved by the Court.

There were five criminal proceedings in bankruptcy.

Twenty-two applications were made for discharge, of which 14 were granted.

The gross liabilities and assets as given by the debtors amounted to $596,437 and $136,830 respectively.

Co-operation.

Staff.

The Director of Co-operation was in charge of the department throughout the year. One Assistant Director went on deputation to India on 11th November, 1928, and examined certain aspects of Co-operation in Madras, the Punjab and Bombay until 19th January, 1929, when he proceeded on leave. Towards the end of the year he spent four months investigating the working of certain co-operative institutions in Belgium, Switzerland Italy and Ceylon before returning to Malaya. The other Assistant Director helped to supervise societies in Perlis, Kedah, Penang and Province Wellesley, Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Malacca and Singapore. The first Co-operative Rubber Organisation Officer, who was stationed in Penang, helped with the general work in that Settlement and northern Perak, as there was no Malayan Civil Service Officer available to take the place of the Assistant Director on leave and special deputation.

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The Asiatic staff consisted of one Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, one Auditor and Accountant, one Senior Malay Co-operative Officer and eight Malay Co-operative Officers, of whom four held substantive appointments, two were on probation and two were seconded from the Malay Officers' Administrative Branch. Seven Junior Malay Co-operative Officers were appointed in addition, of whom five held their appointments substantively and two were acting. The remainder of the staff comprised one Urban Co-operative Officer, one Superintendent, five senior and two junior Indian Co-operative Officers, seven clerks, two clerk-typists and one stenographer.

Difficulty was still experienced in recruiting and training, under adverse conditions, officers of suitable educational qualifications, character and experience.

Expenditure.

The expenditure, inclusive of the salaries of the European staff, was $174,949.61.

Progress.

The following statistics reveal the position on the 30th June, 1929, which is the end of the Co-operative year:

	No. of societies.	No. of members.	Paid-up share capital.	Reserve fund.	Total working capital.
			$	$	$
Agricultural Rural Credit Societies ...	79	2,538	92,876	19,349	135,609
Non-Agricultural Thrift and Loan Societies	26	14,120	2,124,745	88,120	2,278,795
Indian Estate Labourers' Societies	33	7,104	74,128	88	75,888
Total ...	138	23,762	2,291,749	107,557	2,490,292

Rural credit societies.

A further decrease in membership of the Rural Credit Societies took place. Three societies were under liquidation at the end of the Co-operative year. The process of gradually weeding out unsatisfactory members and societies was continued. It is necessary to realise that quality is more important than quantity. Eight hundred and forty loans amounting to $66,910 were granted, as against 888 loans amounting to $71,292 in the previous year. The total profit earned amounted to $12,208, compared with $6,013 in 1928. Three societies worked at a loss of $310, as compared with a loss of $1,064 in 1928. Overdue loans decreased slightly.

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Thrift and loan societies.

Continuous and steady progress was made in the Thrift and Loan Societies. Societies now exist for the benefit of all Government servants in the Federation, and also for all mercantile employees in Perak and Selangor. The term "mercantile" includes all persons not employed by Government. The subscribed capital of the Selangor Government Servants, Posts and Telegraphs and Jaffnese Societies, in each case, is well over $200,000 whilst that of the Railways has long since passed $500,000. The need for the education of committees and members in co-operative practice and principles is, however, very real and ever present. Membership showed an increase of 1,798. The total paid-up subscriptions increased from $1,727,287 in 1928 to $2,124,745 and the Reserve Funds from $54,721 to $88,120. Five thousand and sixty-six loans amounting to $1,428,519 were granted to salary earners during the year, as against 5,572 loans amounting to $1,576,453 in 1928. Surplus assets have substantially increased. Money invested in gilt-edged securities or fixed deposits in banks and cash amounted to $764,497 on 30th June, 1928. On 30th June, 1929, the amount was $1,250,665. The work done by these societies in extricating the salary earner from debt, furnishing him with legitimate and controlled credit facilities and affording him the opportunity for saving a portion of his income regularly, is slowly but surely winning the support of heads of departments, firms and business houses.

Indian estate labourers' societies.

Substantial progress has been made in the organisation of Indian Estate Labourers' societies in Selangor and Negri Sembilan. The demand for their formation, which has now come from all District Planters' Associations in the country, far exceeded the capacity of the department to cope with it. Twenty-one new societies were registered. On 30th June, 1929, 33 societies existed as against 12 in 1928. Membership rose from 2,330 to 7,104. Paid-up share capital increased from $22,720 to $74,128 and the working capital amounted to $75,888.

Co-operative rubber factories.

The Agriculturist (Rubber), seconded from the Agricultural Department, whilst on leave examined some co-operative creamery societies in Ireland to see how their marketing organisation might be adopted to the proposed co-operative rubber factories for small holders in this country. The first Co-operative Rubber Organisation Officer was transferred to Penang on 16th November, 1928, to take charge of the Penang office during the absence of an Assistant Director on leave and to make investigations as to the feasibility of organising factories in Perak. A second European planter was appointed as a

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Co-operative Rubber Organisation Officer on the 21st December, 1928. Two Malay officers were detailed for rubber work. The initial difficulties are gradually being overcome. In three places share capital is being collected to pay for the buildings, machines and other equipment. At other centres propaganda work was undertaken.

Mr. Strickland's visit.

The outstanding event of the year was the visit of Mr. C. F. Strickland, I.C.S., and the publication of his report, which was tabled at the Federal Council meeting on the 4th November. This report should be closely and carefully studied by all who are interested in the Co-operative movement in Malaya and have the welfare of the country at heart.

Film propaganda.

A cinema film illustrating the virtue of thrift and the vice of extravagance, with passing reference to the functions of a rural credit society in the life of Malay peasants, was prepared by the officers of the department. It attracted considerable attention and is undoubtedly of real educative value. Further intensive propaganda along these lines, including co-operation with the Department of Agriculture and the Rubber Research Institute, by means of a travelling film van is foreshadowed.

General.

The Co-operation Board met five times during the year, and one staff conference was held at Kuala Lumpur.

Generally speaking, the year was one of consolidation and steady progress along conservative and orthodox lines.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Posts and Telegraphs.

Postal.

The head-quarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department in Perak were transferred from Taiping to Ipoh on the 7th January. There are now 106 post offices, and 67 places at which postal business is transacted by railway station-masters and others acting as postal agents. The estimated number of articles posted and delivered in 1929 was nearly 42 millions.

Money orders.

Money orders numbering 399,485 were issued and paid, the total representing $19,904,436, an increase of 46,041 in number and of $811,490 in value. Telegraph money orders numbering 16,190 for $1,372,757 were issued and paid.

Savings Bank.

The number of Savings Bank depositors on the 31st December was 42,956, an increase of 5,920 during the year. The average amount standing to the credit of depositors remained at $106. The excess of deposits over withdrawals during the year was $1,108,555. The number of Malay depositors increased from 8,004 to 9,429.

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The number of telegrams despatched and delivered was 901,742, an increase of 18,470. Telegraphs.

The number of direct exchange lines connected to the telephone system at the 31st December was 5,075, an increase of 541 compared with 1928. There were also 2,403 miscellaneous circuits, such as extension lines, extension bells, private lines, private bell or alarm circuit and tell-tale clock circuits maintained by the department, an increase of 226. On the 31st December, there were 3,084 miles of telegraph and telephone lines, and 24,607 miles of overhead wires, of which 21,444 miles were telephone wires. In addition there were 144 miles of underground cable, the length of single wire in the cable being 13,100 miles. These figures do not include railway wires, nor the 123 miles of line (611 miles of wire) owned and maintained by the department in Johore. Six additional public telephone exchanges were opened during the year, at Ampang, Dengkil, Enggor, Kapar, Mentakab and Petaling. Many new trunk and junction lines were established to connect these exchanges with the system and to meet increased traffic. The trunk telephone revenue was $463,155, an increase of more than 20 per cent. over the figures for 1928. Telephones.

Progress has been made with the arrangements for the provision of a new exchange of the automatic type to replace the existing Kuala Lumpur exchange. The contract for the installation of the necessary equipment was placed in September, with Messrs. Ericcsons Telephone Manufacturing Company, Limited, Beeston, Nottingham, England.

The "carrier current" system of telephony was brought into use between Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh on the 1st June, thereby providing three additional speech channels and a much more rapid service between these two exchanges. These channels have worked satisfactorily for the period during which they have been in use.

The question of providing direct telephonic speech channels between Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Bukit Mertajam was still under discussion at the end of the year.

The net revenue collected by the department was $3,199,655, an increase of $279,674. Annually recurrent expenditure amounted to $2,381,195, and special expenditure (including loan account) to $874,945. The value of the services performed free of charge for other Government departments, estimated at $182,262, is not included in these figures, which also exclude temporary and acting allowances amounting to $230,247. Financial.

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Wireless

The Petaling Hill Wireless Station in Kuala Lumpur was practically rebuilt in the course of the year, and a half kilowatt short-wave set was installed there on a permanent basis. A store, workshop and quarters for the operating staff have been built on the site. This station is now in daily communication with the various wireless stations in Pahang. As part of the Flood Emergency Scheme, wireless stations were maintained throughout the year at Kuala Pahang, Kuala Lipis, Kuantan, Mentakab and Temerloh.

A wireless station, equipped with a half kilowatt set, was opened at Port Swettenham on the 1st April, for communication with ship stations; and two low-power medium-wave wireless stations were erected for the Police Department, one at Port Swettenham and the other at Pulau Ketam, to provide telephonic communication between these two places.

Air mails.

Arrangements were made in August for the despatch of mails to connect once a fortnight with Imperial Airways Karachi-London air mail service; and in November, an alteration in the date of departure of the homeward-bound aeroplanes permitted a weekly connection from Malaya. Facilities are also offered in this country for the utilisation of air mail services operating in Australia.

Railways.

General.

The Federated Malay States Government owns the railways both in the Federated Malay States, the Straits Settlements (Singapore Island, Malacca, Province Wellesley) and the Unfederated States of Kedah, Perlis and Kelantan. It has leased the Johore State Railway (121 miles), extending from Johore Bahru at the southern extremity of the Peninsula opposite Singapore Island, to Gemas on the boundary between Johore and the Federated Malay States. A causeway carrying two lines of rail and a roadway across the Johore Straits connects the Island of Singapore with the mainland. At Gemas the line branches into the West Coast and the East Coast lines.

The West Coast line runs north-north-west through Negri Sembilan, Selangor, Perak and Province Wellesley to Prai—the port opposite Penang harbour about 488 miles from Singapore. From Bukit Mertajam, seven miles from Prai, the line proceeds through Province Wellesley and the Unfederated States of Kedah and Perlis to the Siamese frontier station of Padang Besar, 580 miles from Singapore. Through traffic with the Royal State Railways of Siam was opened on 1st July, 1918, the distance between Singapore and Bangkok being 1,194 miles.

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The East Coast line proceeds northward from Gemas through Negri Sembilan and Pahang towards Tumpat, in Kelantan. It is completed and opened for traffic as far as Merapoh Station, 43 miles beyond Kuala Lipis, the capital of Pahang, 184½ miles from Gemas and 321½ miles from Singapore. Merapoh is the last station in Pahang territory and is about three miles from the frontier. By the close of the year permanent way had been laid to a distance of about 26 miles beyond the Kelantan frontier. At the other end a section of 63 miles extending from Tumpat—the port of Kelantan—to Manek Urai at the crossing of the Lebir River has been completed and opened for traffic. This line when extended southward will meet the line from Gemas and provide through direct communication with Singapore from Kelantan. Construction is in progress southwards of Manek Urai towards Pahang. A branch line 13 miles long has been made from Pasir Mas in Kelantan to the Golok River at the Siamese boundary, where it joins the Siamese line running to Haad Yai Junction, 145 miles distant, the junction for the main Bangkok-Penang-Singapore line. Through working between the Federated Malay States and Kelantan via the Royal State Railways of Siam started on 1st November, 1921.

Branch lines connect the main line with the ports on the West Coast at Malacca, Port Dickson, Port Swettenham, Teluk Anson Wharf and Port Weld.

Other branch lines are Ipoh-Tronoh, 15 miles, in Perak, Kuang-Batang Berjuntai, 14 miles, Kuala Lumpur-Batu Caves, eight miles. Sungei Besi-Sultan Street, eight miles, Sultan Street-Ampang, six miles, Connaught Bridge Junction-Kuala Selangor, 30 miles, all in Selangor, and Bahau-Kuala Pilah, 13 miles, in Negri Sembilan.

The total length of line (first track) now open to traffic under the Federated Malay States Railway Administration is 1,037 miles. The line is of metre gauge.

The day and night mail trains running between Singapore and Prai (for Penang) are equipped with restaurant cars and sleeping saloons of a very high standard.

There are 256 permanent stations and 38 flag stations.

Financial.

The expenditure on capital account (including lines not yet open for traffic) was $224,415.465 up to 31st December, 1929, of which $177,230,210 was met from revenue and $47.185,255 from loan account.

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The receipts in 1929 from all sources were $23,331,618, an increase of 4.4 per cent.; expenditure chargeable to revenue on all accounts amounted to $21,518,791, an increase of 8.92 per cent.; the latter sum includes an amount of $5,355,876 appropriated to the Railway Renewals Reserve. The net surplus for the year's working therefore amounted to $1,812,827 compared with $2,591,709 in 1928. The expenditure met from the Railway Renewals and Betterment Fund during the year amounted to $3,664,385 and there was a sum of $10,733,538 standing to the credit of that Fund on the 31st December, 1929.

It is noteworthy that the receipts from all sources during the year 1929 were the highest yet recorded in the history of the Railway.

Rates. There were no changes in the general rates and fares.

Train control. A system of train control introduced in January, 1922, over a busy section of the line has proved very satisfactory in controlling the movement of rolling stock, checking unnecessary haulauge and, in case of breaches on the line, expeditiously restoring communication. The system has been extended and now controls the main line between Prai and Gemas (351 miles).

Passengers. The number of passengers carried was 14,087,281 compared with 13,475,070 in 1928. The total receipts from passengers show an increase of $120,269 (1.47 per cent.).

Goods. The receipts from goods train traffic amounted to $11,223,489 compared with $10,363,148 in 1928, an increase of $860,341 (8.3 per cent.).

Capital expenditure. During the year the net expenditure on capital account was $5,264,788 as compared with $7,569,315 in 1928.

Construction. In Kelantan at the north end platelaying was completed to the 82½ mile from Tumpat, besides the 26 miles mentioned above (at the south end) near the Pahang boundary. The distance between construction rail heads in Kelantan at the end of the year was about 31½ miles. Earthwork, etc., is well in hand over the whole section. Two tunnels at the 69th mile (from Tumpat) with a total length of 1,143 feet and one of 502 feet at 73½ mile have been completed. Out of the six tunnels between the 74th mile and 85th mile, two are nearing completion and work has well advanced in the other four. Work on the tunnel at the 94th mile has been temporarily closed down. The net expenditure on this section during the year amounted to $3,108,508.

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A reconnaissance survey for the proposed new East Coast line southwards from a point near the Guillemard Bridge in Kelantan running through Trengganu and Pahang to Kulai in Johore was completed. The total length of the proposed line is 380 miles.

In Singapore work on the deviation of the railway between Bukit Timah and Tanjong Pagar was begun and proceeded satisfactorily.

A deviation of the main line near Taiping of approximately 15,171 feet was undertaken by arrangement with Kamunting Tin Dredging Limited. This was completed and opened for traffic on 23rd April. It resulted in the shortening of the main line by 3,282 feet, and the removal of Kamunting Station to a new site. The cost of the deviation was borne by Kamunting Tin Dredging Limited.

The remodelling of Ipoh Station Yard and the new Locomotive Depôt at Pumpan were completed on 2nd May.

Other works. A housing scheme for the Railway subordinate, artisan and menial staff estimated to cost $4,765,800 was commenced in 1926 and on 31st December, 801 units had been completed and 502 units were in hand. The settlements at Sentul and Bungsar Road near Kuala Lumpur comprise the main portion of the scheme.

Railway Board. The Railway Board held 12 meetings during the year. It is composed of three official and six unofficial members. Of the unofficials, two were appointed from the Colony, one residing in Singapore and the other in Penang.

Roads.

Mileage. The total mileage at the beginning of the year was 2,671 miles 64 chains, and maintenance costs worked out at an average of $1,435 per mile.

During the year, 62 miles 43 chains were added, making a total mileage at the close of the year of 2,734 miles 27 chains.

Improvements. The policy of widening and straightening main roads and super-elevating curves to meet the requirements of modern traffic, was continued, as was also the work of surfacing roads with bituminous material, the proportion of roads thus treated being 51 per cent.

Enggor Bridge. The Enggor Pontoon Bridge, which was damaged by floods at the close of 1928, was re-opened for traffic on the 3rd January. New overhead moorings have now been provided

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which, it is hoped, will diminish the risk of danger caused by the fouling of anchor chains by timber and debris in time of flood. Work was carried out continuously on the construction of the new bridge at Enggor, good progress being made during the latter part of the year.

General. No serious flooding of roads occurred, though the Selangor River rose over its banks for a few days during November. There were also some minor landslips on the Pahang Trunk Road.

The new pontoon bridge at Blanja was opened to traffic by His Highness the Sultan of Perak on the 28th January, and there has been a marked increase of traffic across the Perak River at this point since the new bridge replaced the old ferry.

The Market Street Bridge at Kuala Lumpur was completed early in the year, and after having successfully passed its tests, was opened to traffic on 10th May. Its erection cost $134,928.

The policy of substituting permanent for timber bridges was pursued.

Traffic census. The triennial traffic census was taken in June. The results shew that traffic is highest on roads joining large centres and running parallel to the railway.

Expenditure. The total expenditure under "Special Services", Roads, Streets and Bridges during the year was $4,400,966.

VI.—POLICE AND PRISONS.

Police.

Crime. The total number of seizable offences reported was 8,179 as against 7,239 in 1928 and an average of 6,762 for the years 1924-1928 inclusive. The year's total of serious crime, which includes murder, gang-robbery and robbery was 160, compared with 157 in the previous year.

The continuance of the slump in tin and rubber has had its inevitable effect on crime and reports of theft and house-breaking which in the prosperous years of 1924 and 1925 reached their lowest level have been steadily on the increase, particularly in the larger towns, to which the unemployed tend to gravitate.

The total number of all reports was 94,943 compared with 84,135 in 1928.

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Staff.

The actual strength of the Force on the 31st December was 4,308 officers and men distributed in 43 District Headquarter Stations, 212 Police Stations and 16 Posts. At the close of the year there were 7 Gazetted Officers, 5 British Inspectors and 53 Subordinate Police Officers and Constables short of the approved strength.

Of the officers available for duty four were serving in Kedah at the close of the year, five in Johore, two in Trengganu and four in the Railway Department. Thirty per cent. of the officers are still on probation. Many of the probationary officers have done well as Officers-in-charge of Police Districts and in other posts, but a very considerable strain has been imposed on Chief Police Officers and other Senior Officers by the fact that so many posts have had to be filled by inexperienced officers.

Recruitment.

It was an extremely bad year for Malay recruitment in spite of the fact that the rubber slump continued. Only 268 Malays applied for enlistment compared with 615 in 1928 and a quinquennial average of 443. No difficulty was experienced in obtaining the necessary number of Indian recruits.

Training.

The training in drill and musketry was maintained at approximately the same level as previous years but owing to the shortage of ammunition (due to non-arrival of ammunition from the Crown Agents) no Malays or Indians in Negri Sembilan and Depôt fired the trained men's Musketry Course.

Instruction.

The Education Department was good enough to second five Malay teachers to the department from Tanjong Malim and since their arrival it has been found possible and profitable to reorganise the Depôt School, extend the curriculum and increase the school hours.

Good progress is being made by Indian recruits in the study of Romanised Malay and it seems certain that in time we shall have no illiterate constables in the Police Force.

The usual law studies were undertaken by the Probationary Officers under training and work was done on finger-prints, footprints, surveying, crime classification, station and court work, etc. It was found possible to admit to these classes a few of the well-educated Indian (Police) teachers. They have all done extremely well in examination and not only become more efficient in their classes but it is hoped that these men, in time, will qualify for appointment as Asiatic Inspectors.

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The Police Warren Shield Team trained by Mr. Andrews at the Depôt took second place in this year's contest—a performance of which the Force in general and the Depôt in particular is justifiably proud.

Co-operative society.

The Federated Malay States Police Co-operative Thrift and Loan Society, Limited, started to operate in July, 1928, and has progressed successfully. It had a membership in December of 2,205. The subscriptions amounted to $35,380. The loans granted by the society totalled $10,382 in respect of 110 loans. The investments include £3,900 ($34,309). Since the formation of the society it has been impressed upon members that this is primarily a society for the encouragement of thrift and that loans are to be granted only in exceptional cases. Only 5.26 per cent. of the members have taken loans and so far there have been no defaulters.

Traffic Branch.

The Traffic Branches of Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh and Seremban, which were established on 1st April, 1928, 10th January, 1929, and 11th July, 1928, respectively, were responsible for a great deal of valuable work during the course of the year. Efforts were made to improve the efficiency of the Police in the control of traffic at points, etc., and in the parking of cars on the occasion of public functions. A high standard was required from applicants for driving licences and applicants had to appear before the testing officers on several occasions before a certificate of competency was granted.

In Pahang there is no Traffic Branch and the work was done by the Chief Police Officer personally and by the Officers-in-charge of Districts.

Criminal Registry.

The most noticeable feature of the year's work of the Criminal Registry is the increase of new registrations, the total for the year 1929 exceeding the total of 1928 by 1,625 and constituting a record for the Registry. During the year the Registrar succeeded in evolving a system of sub-classification of the most congested files (31/31) which has very greatly facilitated the work of searching for prints on these files.

Finger-prints of 1,897 deceased persons were received for search during the year and of these 85 resulted in identification of the bodies.

The Photographer who was formerly under the orders of the Director, Criminal Intelligence, now works under the Registrar of Criminals, his studio being in a part of the Registry Office.

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A great number of articles and documents were sent to him during the year, in order that suspected latent finger-prints thereon might be brought out and photographed, but good results were not numerous.

Very useful work was done during the year by the Detective Branches in Perak, Selangor, and Negri Sembilan and for the tenth year in succession the Federated Malay States were kept clear of organised gangs of robbers. Detective Branch.

Prisons.

There are six prisons in the Federated Malay States. On the 1st January they contained 1,092 prisoners against 1,123 on the 1st January, 1928; 6,644 were admitted; and 1,086 remained at the close of the year. The daily average figures were: Civil Prison, 170; short sentence and revenue grade, 555; long sentence and condemned, 446. Ten executions were carried out. No prisoners escaped. One prisoner committed suicide. The daily average of sick was 1.56 compared with 1.88 in 1928. There were 13 deaths, of which one was from valvular disease of the heart, one from apoplexy, four from cerebral haemorrhage and seven from other causes. General.

The total expenditure of the department was $492,804. The daily average of 1,171 prisoners was maintained at a net cost of $433,144, giving an annual cost per head of $369. The annual cost in 1928 was $371 and in 1927, $409. Expenditure.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.*

The total expenditure for the year, under all heads, was $24,818,165, a decrease of $6,579,352 as compared with the expenditure in 1928. The percentage of expenditure to authorised provision was 87 for 1929 as against 84 for the previous year. General expenditure.

A total number of 1,156 items was authorised under "Special Services" all of which were put in hand by the end of the year. Work and expenditure were evenly distributed throughout each month.

The total cost of administration was $2,369,974 or 9.6 per cent., on the total expenditure. The total expenditure under Annually Recurrent amounted to $8,844,050.

The annual maintenance of Works and Buildings cost $1,251,558 representing 1.81 per cent. of the value of the buildings as against 2.72 in the previous year. Buildings.

* Roads are dealt with under Part V.

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One thousand ninety-eight new buildings were erected during the year, including 60 quarters for senior officers and 280 for subordinates.

All Government buildings have been classified and revalued and a uniform rate adopted on a percentage basis to cover the cost of upkeep. The total number of buildings existing at the beginning of the year was 11,862 valued at $62,972,139.

Buildings completed during the year include New Office for Chinese Protectorate and Hostel for Students.

Research Institute and Quarters for Forest Economist and Clerks at Kepong.

Central Decrepit Camp, Sungei Buloh.

Leper Asylum, Sungei Buloh.

New Victoria Institution.

New English School at Kajang.

Malay Vernacular School, Tanjong Malim.

Trade School, Ipoh.

Police Stations at Tanjong Malim and Slim.

Pahang Resident's Bungalow at Fraser's Hill.

Rest-House, Raub.

English School, Kuala Lipis.

Operating Theatre, Ipoh.

Improvement and maintenance of rivers.

Five dredgers built by Messrs. Fleming and Ferguson under a contract with the Crown Agents were delivered in the early part of the year. One dipper dredger and one cutter suction dredger were re-erected and launched on the Klang River at Bungsar, Kuala Lumpur, and one dipper dredger, one cutter suction dredger and one suction dredger were re-erected and launched at Kuala Pari, Ipoh.

Waterworks.

Kinta Water Supply.—Good progress was made on the new water-supply for Kinta district. The service reservoirs at Tambun, Chemor, Batu Gajah and Tronoh were completed and will be taken over from the contractors after satisfactory tests for water-tightness. The total length of mains laid was 38⅞ miles, comprising pipes from 30″ down to 6″ in diameter. The service main to Ipoh has been laid and approximately two-thirds of the main pipe line, south of Ipoh. The construction of the sedimentation tank and intake dam and the erection of the filtration plant were almost completed. This is the largest public work ever undertaken by the department.

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Teluk Anson Water Supply.—Additions were made to the plant at Changkat Jong, a Jewell filter, a 50 h.p. Diesel engine and a two-stage 3″ centrifugal pump being installed, together with a new rising main.

Work was also started on a new 18″ supply main to Teluk Anson town, a total length of 12,042 lineal feet being laid by the end of the year.

Krian.—The clearing of the Bukit Merah Irrigation Reservoir was completed during the year.

Extension to the Kuala Lumpur Water Supply.—The expenditure on this service to 31st December was $2,025,105. The work was sufficiently far advanced to allow of the new supply being brought into use in October, but many small subsidiary works have yet to be carried out.

Replacement of Water Mains.—Considerable improvements to the town reticulation were carried out, a length of nearly 17 miles of pipe line ranging from 15″ down to 4″ in diameter having been laid.

The capital cost of all waterworks excluding new works under construction is $14,740,301, the cost of maintenance for the year being $234,235 and the revenue $791,974.

Prices and labour.

Prices showed a downward tendency, competition was much keener than in previous years, and there was no shortage of labour.

Electrical Supply.

General.

The year 1929 is the third year of working of the Electrical Department as an independent Federal department. The remarkable development recorded in the last Annual Report has been maintained.

Statistics.

The total capacity of plant installed for the generation of electricity was 75,426 kilowatts, compared with 65,162 kilowatts in 1928, 42,445 kilowatts in 1927 and 29,477 kilowatts in 1926.

The total number of units generated by the above plant in 1929 was 198,761,828. Of these units, 28,008,729 were generated by Government undertakings, the remainder of 170,753,099 units representing private undertakings. The corresponding figures for 1928 were Government undertakings 17,550,067 units and private undertakings 112,419,610 units, making a total of 129,969,677 units.

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It will thus be seen that Government undertakings increased their outputs over the 1928 figures by 60 per cent., while private undertakings increased by 51 per cent.

Units produced by plants under 100 kilowatts capacity have not been included in the above figures.

The units generated for various purposes in the different States were as follows:

State.	Tin mining.	Gold mining.	Coal.	Govern-ment.	Total.
Perak	125,054,000	...	...	2,591,928	127,645,928
Selangor... ...	33,222,934	...	2,530,000	24,282,497	60,035,431
Negri Sembilan...	...	...	...	1,035,863	1,035,863
Pahang	7,168,253	2,777,912	...	98,441	10,044,606
Total 1929 ...	165,445,187	2,777,912	2,530,000	28,008,729	198,761,828
„ 1928 ...	106,477,525	2,442,085	3,500,000	17,550,067	129,969,677

The units generated by prime movers of various types were as follows:

	Perak.	Selangor.	Negri Sembilan.	Pahang.	Total.
Water wheels ...	31,775,000	1,751,385	...	4,524,702	38,051,087
Steam plant ...	70,950,000	41,855,886	...	3,267,747	116,073,633
Internal combustion engines	24,920,928	16,428,160	1,035,863	2,252,157	44,637,108
	127,645,928	60,035,431	1,035,863	10,044,606	198,761,828

The employment of plant subject to the Electricity Enactment in kilowatts was as follows:

State.	Mining.	Agri-cultural.	General.	Govern-ment.	Total.
Perak	25,075	245	18,633	1,502	45,455
Selangor	12,754	90	209	9,694	22,747
Negri Sembilan ...	8	54	105	872	1,040
Pahang	5,610	130	294	150	6,184
Total 1929... ...	43,447	519	19,241	12,218	75,426
„ 1928... ...	39,742	458	12,988	11,974	65,162
„ 1927... ...	30,536	385	551	10,973	42,445

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During the year a definite scheme for technical instruction for the Technical Subordinates was put into operation. Classes were held in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Seremban and Taiping. The progress of students has been generally satisfactory, but lack of school training in elementary science has proved a great handicap to many attending the classes. Technical instruction.

Seven accidents were reported and investigated during the year, of which six were fatal. Four enquiries were held following the District Inspector's reports on the causes of the accidents. Accidents.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Vital Statistics.

The last census was taken in 1921. The figures shown for the present year are estimated at a rate of increase deduced from previous records. Since immigration and emigration of labourers and their dependants have not been completely tabulated, yet are important and very variable factors in population variation, the estimates of population can only be considered as a rough approximation to the correct figures. Population.

The total population of the country during 1929 was estimated to be:

Perak	685,680
Selangor	489,262
Negri Sembilan	218,826
Pahang	168,633
Total ...	1,562,401

The composition by races, calculated on the basis of the census year was estimated to be:

States.	English and Americans.	Eurasians.	Malays and other natives of the Archipelago.	Chinese.	Indians.	Others.
Perak	2,586	1,081	272,206	230,675	177,170	1,962
Selangor	3,390	1,877	113,925	187,005	180,790	2,275
Negri Sembilan ...	1,299	564	84,168	85,242	46,371	1,182
Pahang	394	142	114,756	42,203	10,409	729
Total ...	7,669	3,664	585,055	545,125	414,740	6,148

Fifty-four thousand one hundred and seventy-two births were registered during the year, giving a birth-rate of 34.67 per mille of population, as against 52,771 births and a birth-rate of 34.41 in 1928. Births.

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The following table shows the number of births and birth-rates according to races:

Race.	No. of births.	Birth-rate.
Europeans and Americans ...	144	18.78
Eurasians	126	34.39
Malays and other races of the Archipelago	20,203	34.53
Chinese	21,106	38.72
Indians	12,483	30.10
Others	110	17.89

Deaths.

Forty-one thousand two hundred and three deaths were registered, giving a death-rate of 26.37 per mille. The number of deaths in 1928 was 45,437 and the rate 29.63.

The distribution of deaths among the several races was as follows:

Race.	No. of deaths.	Death-rate.
Europeans and Americans ...	42	5.48
Eurasians	45	12.28
Malays and other races of the Archipelago	13,009	22.24
Chinese	16,575	30.40
Indians	11,450	27.61
Others	82	13.34

The following table shows the number of deaths registered as due to certain diseases in the four States in 1929, with estimated death-rates for 1928 and 1929:

State.	Malaria including "fever".			Dysentery and diarrhoea.			Pulmonary tuberculosis.		
	Deaths.	Rate.		Deaths.	Rate.		Deaths.	Rate.	
		1928.	1929.		1928.	1929.		1928.	1929.
Perak ...	8,103	12.50	11.82	751	1.31	1.09	861	1.33	1.25
Selangor ...	4,368	10.52	8.92	1,019	2.47	2.08	807	1.43	1.65
N. Sembilan...	2,292	13.78	10.46	302	2.42	1.38	311	1.31	1.42
Pahang ...	2,205	21.90	13.07	122	1.91	0.72	101	0.67	0.59
Total ...	16,968	13.08	10.86	2,194	1.89	1.40	2,080	1.29	1.33

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Infant mortality.

The number of reported deaths of children under one year of age was 9,618, an infantile mortality rate per thousand births of 177.55, against a mortality rate of 182.11 in 1928. The deaths reported from the four States were as follows:

State.	Deaths of children under one year.	Death-rate per 1,000 births.	
		1928.	1929.
Perak	3,672	161	155
Selangor ...	3,333	169	179
Negri Sembilan	1,366	211	202
Pahang ...	1,435	279	245
Total ...	9,610	182	178

Public Health.

General remarks.

The state of the public health, as reflected in the statistics, was comparatively good throughout the year.

The death-rate, calculated on the estimated total population, was 26.37 per mille. This is a lower rate than that estimated for either of the three preceding years, when the figures were 29.22, 32.11 and 29.63. It is, however, higher than the estimated rate for the years 1922 to 1925: the figure for 1925 was 23.60.

The birth-rate, calculated on the estimated total population, was 34.67: this is the highest yet recorded for the country. The estimated birth-rate has been rising steadily year by year, and now shows a remarkable increase over the figure of 19.41 recorded for the year 1911. The average birth-rate for the period 1925 to 1929 is 25 per cent. above the corresponding figure for the period 1915-1919, while the average rate for the last two years, 1928 and 1929, is 35 per cent. above that figure.

Until the year 1922 the number of deaths recorded in the Federated Malay States exceeded the number of births: in the year 1911 it was more than double, as also in 1918, the year of the influenza epidemic. In 1923 births for the first time exceeded deaths, and with the exception of 1927, when the balance was again on the wrong side, they have since been annually in excess. In 1919 there were 6,320 more deaths than births recorded: in 1929 there were 12,969 more births than deaths.

In the Malay population, the number of births was lower than in the previous year; the estimated birth-rate is lower than any recorded during the last ten years. The death-rate in the Malay population is the lowest on record. 22.24 per mille of the estimated population.

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In the Chinese population the number of births and the birth-rate are the highest on record. The number of Chinese births exceeded the number of Malay births for the first time. The Chinese births and the estimated birth-rate for 1929 were both considerably more than double the figures for 1923.

The death-rate among the Chinese was 30.40, as calculated on the estimated population. It was thus the highest of any race.

In the Indian population the number of births exceeded the number of deaths: records of all previous years show an excess of deaths over births, with the exception of the years 1924 and 1925 when the figures were approximately equal.

The death-rate among Indians was 27.61. For the years 1923, 1924 and 1925 a lower rate was recorded, but with the exception of these years the rate for 1929 is the lowest on record, being more than 6 per mille less than 1928, and nearly 10 per mille less than 1927.

Of these races, Malay, Chinese and Indian, estimated as numbering about 585,000, 545,000 and 415,000, respectively, the Chinese showed the highest birth-rate and death-rate, the Malay the lowest death-rate and the Indian the lowest birth-rate. Infantile mortality showed an improvement for the country generally, the rate per thousand births being 178, compared with 182 in 1928. It is, however, still high.

During the year there was no general outbreak of epidemic disease.

European population.

The number of cases of malaria admitted to Government hospitals was 277 with two deaths. There were four admissions for tropical typhus, with one death. The number of cases of appendicitis was 51.

The total number of European deaths registered was 42, which on an estimated population of 7,669 is a death-rate of 5.48 per mille.

Incidence of Particular Diseases.

Malaria.

Malaria was less prevalent than in either of the two previous years. Records of admissions to Government hospitals and to estate hospitals, and of deaths registered as due to "Malaria, including fever", all show a great reduction, which in the case of admissions to Government hospitals is nearly 30 per cent. The total number of deaths registered as "Malaria, including fever" was 16,968, compared with over 20,000 in each of the two previous years.

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The number of cases of malaria admitted to Government hospitals during the last three years is as under:

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Death-rate per cent.
1927	48,927 ...	2,543 ...	5.20
1928	49,553 ...	2,637 ...	5.34
1929	35,306 ...	1,795 ...	5.36

The conclusion from all available figures relating to malaria is that the wave of malaria, which was evident during 1927 and 1928, is now passing, or has passed. There can be no reasonable doubt that the decrease in malarial infection was the factor responsible for the improvement in the general death-rate throughout the country last year.

Dysentery.

The number of deaths registered under the head of "dysentery and diarrhoea" was 2,194, and there were 4,491 admissions to Government hospitals. These figures both show about 25 per cent. decrease on last year's figures.

Smallpox.

Ten cases of smallpox were notified during the year: two were fatal. A small outbreak occurred in and around Kuala Lumpur, the infection having apparently been brought by a passenger on the railway. The energetic measures taken to prevent spread of the disease, by isolation and vaccination, were successful; the staff of the Health Branch is to be congratulated on the way in which each of the scattered cases was tracked down and dealt with.

Cholera and plague.

No case occurred of either cholera or plague.

Tropical typhus.

There was a large increase in the number of cases of tropical typhus reported during the year, from 57 in 1928 to 166 in 1929. There were 11 deaths. Of these cases, four were Europeans. It may be that this increase can be partly explained by the careful search now being made for cases of this disease, but there would seem to be little doubt that its incidence is affected by the increase in oil-palm cultivation. Investigations into the causation of the disease are being continued at the Institute for Medical Research.

Cerebro-spinal meningitis.

An outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred amongst Indian immigrants at Port Swettenham Quarantine Camp; there were 44 cases, of which no less than 38 were fatal, an extremely high rate of mortality. The disease did not appear anywhere else in the country in epidemic form, only a few scattered cases being reported.

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Pneumonia.

Pneumonia continues to be one of the deadliest of the killing diseases of the country. The number of admissions to hospital, 3,227, was less than last year, and the case mortality was not quite so high, though it was still over 45 per cent.

Pulmonary tuberculosis.

The number of deaths registered as due to pulmonary tuberculosis was 2,080, which is very near the figure of 2,000 mentioned last year as being the average for recent years. The number of cases admitted to Government hospitals was 2,112, and the deaths in hospital were 1,078; deaths in the previous year numbered 1,074. There is therefore nothing in the recorded figures to indicate any rapid increase in the disease, though not much satisfaction can be derived from this, since what is wanted is an annual decrease.

Leprosy.

Two hundred and fifty-one new cases of leprosy were admitted for detention during the year. The average of annual admissions during recent years has been 254, previous reports having over-estimated the numbers. At the end of the year there were 1,055 lepers under detention, of which 983 were in the Leper Settlement at Kuala Lumpur: 800 of these were Chinese.

The new settlement at Sungei Buloh was not completed by the end of the year, but it should be ready during 1930. The existing settlement is unsuitable and over-crowded, and there is no provision for separation of non-infective lepers, so that the release of such cases has not been practicable. Indefinite detention of all known lepers encourages the concealment of early cases of leprosy in the general population; one of the best chances of treating and preventing the disease is therefore being lost.

Yaws.

The treatment of yaws by arsenical compounds was continued, and 25,862 injections were given. The number of cases treated in each State, in comparison with the numbers treated in 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928, is shown in the following table:

State.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Perak	9,155	9,358	2,307	10,007	8,845
Selangor	1,305	1,680	2,504	1,999	1,458
Negri Sembilan ...	6,426	4,543	4,465	4,280	3,721
Pahang	9,403	7,893	3,913	3,286	2,421
Total ...	26,289	23,474	13,189	19,572	16,445

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There was a further increase in the number of cases of venereal disease which received treatment at hospitals and clinics, the total number recorded being 40,802 as compared with 35,366 during the preceding year. It is hoped that this increase is due to a greater readiness to make use of the free treatment provided, rather than to an actual increase in disease. Venereal diseases.

Propaganda by means of illustrated lectures was continued, and educational pamphlets in five languages were widely distributed among all races.

The number of centres at which free treatment is provided is 59.

The number of cases treated of beri-beri in hospitals was 1,640 with 197 deaths, as compared with 2,098 cases with 239 deaths in 1928. The total number of deaths registered as due to beri-beri throughout the country was 636. There is thus evidence of a further satisfactory decrease in the incidence of this disease, after the comparatively heavy incidence which followed the 1926-7 floods. The pity is that a disease so easily preventable should be present at all. The remedy lies in education in the elementary principles of nutrition. Beri-beri.

The number of cases admitted and treated in hospitals under the heading of "cancer or other malignant tumours" was 315, with 136 deaths. These figures are practically the same as those reported for the previous year. Cancer.

Infant Welfare Work.

This important branch of work continued to extend. No new centres were opened, but the work at existing centres greatly increased. Expansion of work.

The number of attendances at Infant Welfare Centres throughout the country for each of the last four years is shown hereunder:

1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
61,365 ...	92,476 ...	118,257 ...	150,239

Work at these centres is not strictly confined to infant welfare; a large part is devoted to expectant mothers, while it is impossible to avoid ordinary out-patient treatment for minor ailments of women and children. Since such work is successful in gaining the confidence of the mothers, it is all to the good. Nature of work

The number of visits made by European Sisters or other Health Visitors to women and children in their homes during the year was recorded as 116,019, of which over 31,468 were made General.

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by European Sisters. The total number of visits in the preceding year was recorded as 71,631. There has thus been a great increase in this valuable service.

As a factor in the improvement in the public health of the country the Infant Welfare Centres are playing a great part, and the declining infantile mortality rate may be taken as an indication of this.

Inspection of Schools.

Scope of work.

A second Lady Medical Inspector was appointed during the year, for work in Perak, and the work in Selangor and Negri Sembilan was continued by the Lady Inspector appointed in 1928. One hundred and twenty-nine schools were visited, and 11,514 children examined.

Dental treatment.

During the year a Dental Surgeon was appointed for inspection and treatment of school children. In six months 2,532 children were examined, and 944 treated. It was found that nearly 75 per cent. of the children needed attention. The Dental Surgeon reports that the condition disclosed is deplorable, and that a great deal of the existing dental caries could have been prevented by correct habits of diet and cleansing of the teeth.

Public Health Education.

General.

Propaganda by means of lectures and pamphlets has been continued. Health exhibits were staged at three Agricultural Shows during the year. Reported cases of tuberculosis are being traced to their homes, and the households instructed in precautionary measures.

Work has been started on the systematic preparation of cinematograph films, and it is hoped eventually to obtain a series of films, each dealing with some particular aspect of disease prevention, and all dealing, in the form of a story, with typical Malayan conditions.

Quarantine and Port Health Work.

Infected ships.

A great part of the immigration into Malaya is through the ports of Singapore and Penang, both in the Straits Settlements. The Medical Department of the Federated Malay States is chiefly concerned with Port Swettenham, which admits large numbers of Indian labourers. Of forty-nine ships bringing Indian immigrants to this port during the year, six were infected, four with cerebro-spinal meningitis and two with smallpox.

Immigrants quarantined.

The total number of immigrants dealt with at the quarantine camp at Port Swettenham was 60,761.

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Medical Institutions.

Institutions under the control of the Medical Department, on 31st December, 1929, were as follows: Institutions.

4 European Hospitals;

34 District Hospitals (each with Out-patient Dispensary);

3 Women's Hospitals;

2 Leper Asylums;

5 Gaol Hospitals;

1 Quarantine Camp with Hospital (at Port Swettenham);

4 Vagrant or Decrepit Wards;

Central Mental Hospital;

Institute for Medical Research;

30 Town Dispensaries;

5 Infant Welfare Centres;

5 Special Clinics for Venereal Disease.

The number of in-patients treated in Government hospitals was 117,639 with 9,764 deaths; corresponding numbers for the previous year were 143,361 and 11,329. The number of major surgical operations performed was 1,671, compared with 1,463 in 1928. Hospital in-patients.

The number of out-patients treated in all hospitals, dispensaries, travelling dispensaries and dispensary boats in 1929 was 878,158 as compared with 895,948 in 1928. Dispensaries and out-patients.

On 31st December, 1929, there were 1,785 male and 559 female patients at the Central Mental Hospital. The total admissions during the year were 983, while the discharges numbered 566. Two new wards were opened at the beginning of the year, and a ward for infectious female cases is under construction. Mental diseases

A full programme of research work was undertaken. Investigations in malaria included study of the conditions which may influence the infectivity of human subjects, especially with regard to the effect of treatment with quinine. Field and laboratory experiments in the breeding and life history of mosquitoes were continued. Further investigations into the aetiology of tropical typhus in Malaya were carried out by the Research Student specially appointed for this purpose. Other research included leprosy, leptospirosis, anaemia of pregnancy, and pneumonia. Institute for Medical Research.

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By the end of the year arrangements were nearly completed for the preparation and supply of vaccine lymph, and it is expected that in 1930 the Institute will be able to provide all the lymph required for smallpox vaccination in Malaya.

The preparation of vaccine for prophylaxis and treatment of rabies was continued, though the administration of the vaccine was transferred from the Institute to certain selected hospitals, The number of patients treated was 203.

The Institute also dealt with a great volume of routine bacteriological and pathological work.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Financial.

The expenditure upon Education (including $852,370 spent by the Public Works Department on the building and upkeep of schools) was $4,320,961. Of this sum, $524,059 was paid in grants to English aided schools and $73,641 in grants to Chinese vernacular schools.

The total revenue, derived mainly from school-fees, collected by the department was $166,645. In addition the Education Rate realised $75,340.

Staff.

Four European Masters and four mistresses were recruited for the Federated Malay States. One European Mistress resigned.

At the end of the year the European male officers of the department on the Federated Malay States Establishment numbered 48 and the female 12. This included administrative and teaching staff. There are still vacancies to be filled to allow for the increasing number of schools and of officers lent to the Unfederated Malay States and for officers on leave.

Higher education.

One of the highest local educational institutions open to students from the Federated Malay States is King Edward VII College of Medicine, Singapore.

The other is Raffles College, which provides a higher education in subjects other than medicine. The College opened informally in June, 1928. In 1928, the Federal Government agreed to defray the cost of another hall of residence for students from the Federated Malay States and the building was completed early in 1930. There were 36 such students at the College at the end of 1929.

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The Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, trains probationers for the Government service.

A start was made with the building of a School of Agriculture at Serdang, with a view to providing practical and scientific courses in agriculture. Quarters for the school staff were in course of erection at the latter end of the year and the building of the school and a hostel for 80 students was begun in January, 1930.

Evening classes.

Evening classes continued to be held in all the States. In Perak and Negri Sembilan again the only classes in demand were those for elementary English. In Kuala Lumpur the curriculum comprised English, shorthand, book-keeping, typewriting, mathematics, machine drawing, electricity, locomotive and electrical engineering, workshop mechanics, surveying, art and Malay. Attendance on the whole was fair. In Pahang there were classes in English and typewriting.

There were Normal Classes for teachers in all the States except Pahang, where correspondence classes take their place. A new scheme for the improvement of the normal class syllabus was approved by the Government during the year. The old scheme supplied only one course of training for all, whereas specialisation had made it imperative to differentiate between courses for primary and courses for elementary teachers. This need is met by the new scheme, which came into force on 1st April, 1929.

Scholarships and free education.

Of the 17,377 pupils in English schools, 445 held Government scholarships, enjoying free education, board and lodging; 30 held other scholarships; 2,662 received free education from the Government and 244 free education from other sources. Thus 3,381 or 19.46 per cent. receive a free education.

All pupils in Malay vernacular schools enjoy free education.

English schools.

There were 23 English Government schools for boys, 13 English grant-in-aid schools for boys and 13 for girls. The total average enrolment was 6,683, 6,464 and 4,230 respectively.

Malay College, Kuala Kangsar.

The expenditure on the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, was $94,193. At the end of the year there were 133 students, all boarders, educated and maintained entirely at Government expense. Two boys suffering from consumption were sent away from the school, but otherwise the general health of the boys was good. Cricket, hockey and association football are played regularly. There were 51 Cadets and 69 Scouts. The Cadet Corps received a good report at its annual inspection.

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Sultan Idris Training College.

At the beginning of the year there were 366 students and one probationer in residence at the Sultan Idris Training College for the training of Malay vernacular teachers. After the fasting month 124 students completed their course and left and 131 new students joined.

The total expenditure was $154,977, defrayed two-thirds by the Federated Malay States and one-third by the Government of the Straits Settlements. The cost of educating a student was $384 a year.

The curriculum comprises the Malay language and literature, Malay history, geography, the theory and practice of teaching, hygiene, practical training, rural science, handiwork and religious instruction.

The strength of the four College platoons in the Malayan Volunteer Infantry was 202. All attended Camp at Port Dickson during July and were favourably reported upon.

Malay vernacular education.

The Malay vernacular schools are all Government institutions and provide free education. There are 431 schools for boys and 77 for girls with average enrolments of 32,876 and 4,580 respectively. The Malay teaching staff numbers 1,543.

Malay parents continue to display a most satisfactory eagerness for the education of their girls, a change due largely to the improved practical methods of teaching introduced by the Lady Supervisor of Malay Girls' Schools.

Tamil vernacular schools.

There are 339 Tamil vernacular schools with an average enrolment of 12,416. Estates continued to build and equip new schools. During the year regulations for the organisation and administration of all Tamil schools were printed and issued.

Chinese vernacular schools.

Three hundred and seventy-nine Chinese schools were registered with 902 teachers and 23,393 pupils, of whom 5,357 were girls. Grants were paid to 82 schools.

Sanitary inspection is now a routine preliminary to the registration of all new schools.

The training class for Chinese teachers was continued at Kuala Lumpur. There were 12 students in three classes.

There are two Government Chinese schools of primary standard at Kuala Lumpur. One was opened in 1929.

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Technical education.

The Trade School at Kuala Lumpur trains youths to become general fitters and motor mechanics. There were 64 students. Twenty students completed the three-year course of training and all found employment either in the Government service or with private firms. The school has been enlarged and now has accommodation for about 100 students. The practical aptitude of the Malay students is most gratifying.

A Trade School at Bagan Serai trains students in carpentry and furniture-making. The average enrolment was 58. The first school leaving examination was held in October and 21 candidates passed out. All have since found work. Exhibits of the work done at the school were shown at the Taiping Agri-Horticultural Show in August.

A Trade School at Ipoh was completed and was in course of being equipped at the end of the year.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY (INCLUDING GEOLOGY).

Area under title.

The area in private occupation at the end of the year amounted to about 2,615,126 acres under agricultural titles and 209,734 acres under mining titles.

It is estimated that of the 27,500 sq. miles covered by the four States of the Federation, 16.1 per cent. is land in private occupation, 22.8 per cent. is reserved forest, while the balance of 61.1 per cent. is still State land, including therein land reserved for purposes other than forests.

Land revenue.

The land revenue (including $2,230,446 derived from Land Sales) amounted to $7,760,102 as compared with $7,573,295 (including $2,317.044 derived from Land Sales) collected in 1928.

Surveys.

Financial results.

The cost of the department may be summarised as follows:

Year.	Gross expenditure.	Reimbursements and revenues.	Net expenditure.
1929 ...	... $1,903,567	... $674,501	... $1,229,066
1928 ...	... 1,869,564	... 687,242	... 1,182,322
1927 ...	... 1,708,259	... 653,881	... 1,054,378

Before 1929 payment was received for topographical surveys of forest reserves. Had this practice been followed last year the net expenditure would have been $1.179.066, showing a small reduction over that of 1928.

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Revenue Survey Branch.

The main financial data of the last few years are given in the table below:

Year.	Expenditure.	Fees earned at schedule rates.	Actual revenue.	Net cost.
1929	$913,507	$499,013	$423,352	$490,155
1928	903,842	462,877	392,896	510,946
1927	870,389	526,754	368,580	501,809
1926	820,561	405,000	292,906	527,655

This table does not show separately the cost of work carried out for other departments without charge, which amounted to $157,949, nor the part remission of fees by Collectors of Land Revenue which totalled $54,846.

The net cost of this branch in 1923 was $823,160.

State of surveys with reference to requisitions for survey.

The number of lots for which surveys were requisitioned during the year totalled 16,455 against 15,101 in 1928. The number of lots surveyed totalled 14,257 while requisitions for 11,499 lots were satisfied. The arrears represent rather more than a year's work, but since they consist almost entirely of surveys of native holdings already occupied, they occasion little inconvenience to the public.

Topographical Branch.

Surveys for the standard topographical map of Malaya, scale one inch to one mile, were continued in Kedah, Pahang, Selangor and Eastern Negri Sembilan. Experiments to test new methods affecting the organisation, control and management of field parties and the treatment of information obtained by traversing were carried out and indicate that in jungle country their general application will result in more accurate maps at lower costs.

Surveys of forest reserves, scale four inches to one mile, were proceeded with and further areas in Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh were surveyed on large scales for town planning and engineering purposes.

Map production.

An increase in the volume of work completed by the Central Drawing Office and the Photo Lithographic Branch which, together, are responsible for the reproduction of the very wide range of maps available was reflected by an increase of twenty per cent. in the revenue derived, $75,915.

The principal productions were additional sheets of the standard topographical map of Malaya, scale one inch equals one mile, a geological map of Malaya, a new edition of the Perak State map and large scale town maps and sheets.

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Topographical maps on the standard scale now cover approximately 40 per cent. of the Federated Malay States and cadastral sheets on scales of four or eight chains and thirty-two chains to an inch are available for virtually the whole of the area alienated.

Meteorology.

Steady progress was made by the Meteorological Branch of the department. Of the Malayan programme of seventeen second order stations, fourteen were fully established by September. Difficulties were experienced in obtaining suitable sites for the remainder but these have now been overcome. Daily weather reports have been supplied to the Press and the various port authorities since July. By the end of the year these reports comprised the tabulated observations received from fifteen stations.

General.

The year has been one of satisfactory progress. In the last report the Surveyor-General stated that the general standard of efficiency had reached a level beyond which progress must necessarily be slow, and it is gratifying to find that the ratio of increased efficiency has been greater than was anticipated.

Geology.

The first geological survey of Malaya was completed except for certain areas where the prospect of obtaining valuable results was not sufficient to justify the expense and time involved. A draft geological map on the scale of 12 miles to an inch, based on the Survey Department's map of that scale, was prepared and will be published. As a result of the survey it does not seem at all probable that any large new tin-fields will be discovered, and it appears that a high output of tin-ore in the future will depend on dredging low-lying alluvial areas with dredges which can make a profit out of ground carrying only a fraction of a *kati* per cubic yard. The Director has now been able to confer twice with the staff of the Geological Survey of the Netherlands Indies and it was found that results in either area agree closely and that the staffs are working on parallel lines.

XI.—LABOUR.

General.

The majority of labourers in the Federated Malay States are Chinese and Southern Indians. The latter are chiefly engaged in agricultural work and on public services: the former in agriculture and every other form of manual labour. Skilled work is almost entirely in the hands of the Chinese.

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In addition there are 6,642 Javanese labourers, immigrants from the Netherlands East Indies. This class of labour is recruited mainly for the Kuala Lipis and Kuantan districts of Pahang. Five hundred and eight of these labourers are employed on contracts of service for 900 days' work entered into in Java. This is the only form of indentured labour in the Federated Malay States. All other labourers of all races are at liberty to leave their employment at any time on giving a month's notice.

Conditions of labour are governed by the provisions of the Labour Code, 1923, and by the Netherlands Indian Labourers' Protection Enactment, 1927. These Enactments are administered by a Labour Department under the direction of the Controller of Labour, Malaya. Officers of the Chinese Protectorate are appointed Deputy or Assistant Controllers of Labour to deal with questions of Chinese Labour.

Relations between employers and labourers were generally satisfactory.

Wages.

The rates of wages were a little lower than those prevailing in 1928 except in the case of the wages of South Indians which rose throughout the country in 1929 following on the increase in the prescribed rates for South Indian labourers in the Coast districts of Selangor. These rates, 50 cents a day for males, 40 cents a day for females and 20 cents a day for minors, came into effect from 1st of February, 1929. With the exception of the inland districts of Pahang where prescribed standard rates of 58 cents a day for men and 46 cents a day for women are being paid, men and women in the Federated Malay States are now paid on practically all places of employment at rates not less than 50 cents and 40 cents a day respectively.

Population.

The estate population for the past five years is shewn in the following table:

—	1925.	1926.	1927	1928.	1929.		Total.
					Males.	Females.	
Indians (Madras Presidency) ...	137,761	176,114	172,466	162,460	119,930	61,275	181,205
Chinese ...	37,879	61,064	44,239	50,647	59,973	5,644	65,617
Javanese ...	4,165	4,760	4,550	5,149	4,031	1,285	5,316
Others ...	4,549	4,822	3,963	4,788	5,907	735	6,642
Total ...	184,354	246,760	225,218	223,044	189,841	68,939	258,780

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Health conditions on estates generally show an improvement on those of 1928. The death-rate among Indian labourers on estates and mines from which returns are received was 12.58 per mille on an average population of 168,025 as compared with 15.71 on an average population of 170,824 in 1928, 18.44 per mille in 1927, 15.62 in 1926, and 12.55 in 1925. Health.

The mortality among labourers of other races, of whom there are fewer employed on estates was 6.20 per mille. The death-rate per mille amongst labourers of all races on estates was 10.69 and amongst Indian labourers 12.81.

Under the Health Boards Enactment (that now in force is Enactment No. 32 of 1929) a Central Health Board has been constituted which is empowered to collect an annual cess or cesses for the purpose of carrying out health measures in areas other than Sanitary Board areas, and Local Boards under the control of the Central Health Board have been formed in all States. The Local Board areas correspond generally with those of administrative districts and the District Officers are Chairmen of the Local Boards. In order to co-ordinate the work of the Boards with the Labour Code the Controller of Labour is appointed ex-officio President of the Central Health Board. Considerable progress has been made in organising uniformity of service by private medical practitioners on estates throughout the Federation, and hospitals are being provided or extended to ensure medical treatment of labourers in need of it in accordance with the requirements of "The Labour Code, 1923," and "The Health Boards Enactment, 1929". Investigation into schemes (chiefly anti-malarial) for the prevention of disease is now being made by Local Health Boards. Health Boards.

"The Health Boards Enactment of 1928" was repealed and replaced by "The Health Boards Enactment, 1929". No new principles were introduced.

Chinese immigration is uncontrolled and takes place mainly through the ports of the Colony. The number of Chinese deck passengers arriving in the Colony was 293,167 while the number of those returning to China was 139,967. Large numbers of these immigrants proceeded to the Federated Malay States but in spite of this continued influx there was little unemployment. Chinese immigration.

The immigration of labourers from Southern India is regulated by the Indian Immigration Committee (of which the Controller of Labour, Malaya, is ex-officio Chairman) appointed by the High Commissioner. Southern Indian immigration.

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The railway fares in India, steamer passages and transport expenses of such labourers to their places of employment are paid from the Indian Immigration Fund.

The number of labourers so assisted who arrived in Penang during 1929 was 82,183 compared with 27,240 in 1928. These "assisted labourers" consisted of 70,314 adults and 11,869 minors. Of the adults 52,104 were men and 18,210 women: the number that proceeded to places of employment in the Federated Malay States was 56,223 compared with 18,343 in 1928. Immigration from Southern India in 1928 was abnormally low, as great uncertainty existed regarding the consequences of the abolition, in November, 1928, of all restrictions on the export of rubber. Immigration in the year under review was more normal.

Indian Immigration Fund.

The income of the Indian Immigration Fund is derived from a quarterly assessment levied on all employers of South Indian Labour throughout Malaya based on the number of days' work done by such labourers during the quarter.

With a view to increasing the number of female immigrants a differential rate is levied on male and female labourers. The rate of assessment was fixed for the 1st and 2nd quarters at $1 for males and 50 cents for females and for the 3rd and 4th quarters at $2 for males and $1 for females in respect of every 72 days' work done.

Repatriation.

During 1929, 5,323 adult and 1,408 minor decrepit or destitute Indians were assisted with passages back to India. Of these, 2,920 adults and 917 minors were from the Federated Malay States.

Amongst those repatriated at the expense of the Indian Immigration Fund, 745 adults and 354 minors had been inmates of the Home for Decrepit Indians, Kuala Lumpur, maintained by the Immigration Committee.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

The total number of Enactments passed, excluding the Supply Enactments, was 30, as in 1928. Of these, 15 were amending Enactments and eight were re-enactments of already existing provision, while the remainder introduced new matter into the statute book.

The most important new Enactment is probably the Workmen's Compensation Enactment. This was a fairly close copy of the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act, but has not

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yet been brought into force. Another important statute is the Distribution Enactment laying down rules for the distribution of the estates of persons, not being Mahomedans, who die intestate and domiciled within the Federated Malay States. The rules follow the system in force in the Colony, which consists generally speaking of English law modified by judicial decisions as to the recognition of polygamy. Other new material includes provision for claims for compensation by the family of a person killed in a fatal accident (Lord Campbell's Act), and for the operation within local waters of revenue vessels belonging to the neighbouring Administrations.

The most important re-enactment was the Sanitary Boards Enactment. This is intended to regularise the legal position of a Sanitary Board and to separate the advisory duties of the Board from the administrative functions of a Government department. Much new matter was included, taken from the Municipal Ordinance of the Colony, which was either omitted in the former law or relegated to the by-laws. Other re-enactments included a new Petroleum Enactment, an Aerial Navigation Enactment, following the British Order-in-Council applicable in Crown Colonies, and a Health Boards Enactment. It is hoped that this last will meet the many unforeseen difficulties which, no doubt unavoidably, have occurred in connection with the preliminary work necessary to the launching of schemes. Another important re-enactment is the Estate Duty Enactment, which represents a considerable advance on the former law.

The only amending Enactments of any importance were the amendment to the Civil Procedure Code, introducing Third-Party Procedure and Counterclaims in Supreme Court Suits, and the two amendments to the Railways Enactment. The latter provided better machinery for enquiries into accidents and made certain alterations regarding the liability of the Railway Administration for the loss of passengers luggage.

Planters' Loans Board.

Planters' loans.

On 1st January, 1929, the Board had outstanding as "Planters" loans to four companies ($210,000) and nineteen individuals ($247,200), the sum of $457,200. It lent in new loans (seven) during the year a further $312,000, while nine properties repaid their loans in full amounting to $130,500 and seven other properties made partial repayments to the extent of $46,800. At the end of the year, the "Planters" loans outstanding were $591,900, to six companies ($445,000) and fifteen individuals ($146,900).

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Building loans.

Building loans at the beginning of the year totalled thirty-nine (thirty-six borrowers) amounting to $895,920. During the course of the year a further twenty-nine loans amounting to $761,000 were approved but of these one ($15,000) was subsequently withdrawn while eight totalling $152,000 had not been taken advantage of by the end of the year. The amount actually lent in new loans, therefore, was $594,000. Repayments in full were made by five borrowers totalling $49,500 while twenty-six others made partial repayments to the extent of $86,380. At the end of the year, the Board had outstanding fifty-one loans (forty-eight borrowers) amounting to $1,354,040.

War Service loans.

Under the War Service Land Grant Scheme, at the beginning of the year, eighty-four ex-soldiers were benefiting by approved loans amounting to $2,027,000. Eleven beneficiaries repaid their loans in full amounting to $228,750, partial repayments by five others totalled $26,500 while one loan of $25,000 had to be written off as irrecoverable. The amount outstanding at the end of the year was $1,746,750 due by seventy-two beneficiaries.

Interest.

Interest earned during the year amounted to $158,673 of which $23,566 was in respect of "Planters" loans, $48,654 in respect of "building" loans and $86,453 in respect of "War Service" loans.

Interest collected totalled $123,541. Of this sum, $62,694 was credited to Federal Revenue and $60,847 to the revenue of the Board.

Profit and loss.

The Board's profit on the year's working amounted to $26,580.

Reserves.

The reserves of the Board stand at $600,000.

Capital.

The capital of the Board is $4,000,000 created by "The Planters Loans Fund Enactment, 1915".

Public Trustee and Official Administrator.

The year under review was the seventh year of the working of the Department of the Public Trustee.

The duties of the Public Trustee are :

(*a*) to act in the administration of estates of small value;

(*b*) to act as an ordinary trustee;

(*c*) to act as a trustee appointed by the Court.

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During the year the Public Trustee accepted 21 trusts in all as compared with 44 in 1928 and 30 in 1927.

The value of the property held in trust by the Public Trustee at the end of the year was estimated at over $4,264,000.

The office of Official Administrator, Federated Malay States, is now combined with that of Public Trustee. The number of estates taken up by the Official Administrator during 1929 was 14, valued at nearly $146,000.

Estate Duty Office.

The year under review was the third year in which this office collected the stamp duty due in respect of all four States on the estates of deceased persons.

The number of affidavits for the Collector which were received during the year was 645 as compared with 839 in 1928. The revenue collected amounted to $339,437 as against $529,937 in 1928.

The Estate Duty Enactment No. 10 of 1929 came into force on 1st October, 1929, and deals with estates of deceased persons who died on or after that date.

Volunteering.

Strength.

During 1929, a Light Battery of Artillery was formed as part of the Malay States Volunteer Regiment and was recruited up to establishment strength. The strength of the Malay States Volunteer Regiment as a whole has increased by 48. The total strength is now 1,606 with an effective Colour Service strength of 1,033.

Efficiency.

The general efficiency of the Regiment was well maintained. Few men failed to fire their range courses and results were very satisfactory. Field training is difficult to arrange except in camp and the importance of the latter to the tactical efficiency of the Regiment cannot be over emphasised.

Port Dickson Camp.

The number of attendances at Port Dickson Camp was up to expectation and although the actual numbers attending increased, there were 630 volunteers who did not attend camp during the year.

Cost.

Although drill attendances were not less than in previous years the cost per volunteer in Annually Recurrent Expenditure was very considerably reduced.

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Malayan Volunteer Infantry.

During the year the Sultan Idris Training College Malayan Volunteer Infantry Company was federalised and made a very good start under the new régime.

Malayan Volunteer Infantry units are well up to establishment strengths.

Attendances at Camps were very good. The majority of officers and men showed an admirable keenness but it is not yet possible to say that the general efficiency of Malayan Volunteer Infantry units is as high as it should be either in field or weapon training. It is hoped to improve the standard by affording greater opportunities for instruction in future.

General.

His Excellency Sir Hugh Clifford, M.C.S., G.C.M.G., G.B.E., High Commissioner for the Malay States, went on leave prior to retirement on the 20th October, and Mr. John Scott, C.M.G., Officer Administering the Government of the Straits Settlements, held the office of High Commissioner until the end of the year.

Sir Hugh Clifford's departure occasioned general and sincere regret, the Civil Service losing its senior member, the Malays their oldest friend, and the country generally a very able and distinguished administrator who combined a wide experience with a great personal charm.

Sir William Peel, M.C.S., K.B.E., C.M.G., Chief Secretary to Government, was granted leave on the 30th November, and Mr. C. W. H. Cochrane, M.C.S., British Resident of Perak, was appointed to act as Chief Secretary to Government.

Mr. A. F. Worthington, M.C.S., British Resident of Perak, retired in June and was succeeded by Mr. C. W. H. Cochrane, M.C.S.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, K.G., as Head of the Garter Mission to Japan, passed through Malaya in April, paying a short visit to Kuala Kangsar where he was entertained by His Highness the Sultan of Perak, and spending one day in Kuala Lumpur where elaborate preparations had been made for his reception. During the afternoon His Royal Highness gave audiences to Their Highnesses the Sultans of Selangor and Pahang and the Yang di Per Tuan Besar of Negri Sembilan. His Royal Highness appeared to be much impressed by the development of the country and to appreciate highly the spontaneous demonstration of loyalty of all sections of the community.

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His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to confer the following honours:

On His Majesty's Birthday—

Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George	His Highness Ala'idin Suleiman Shah ibni Almerhum Raja Muda Musa, Sultan of Selangor.
Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Civil Division)	The Hon'ble Mr. E. W. F. Gilman (when he was Controller of Labour, Malaya).

The Certificate of Honour approved by His Majesty the King as a recognition of the loyal and valuable services rendered to the Government of the Federated Malay States was awarded to the following on the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday:

The Hon'ble Mr. Wong Yick Tong, J.P., M.F.C., M.C.S.;

Dato' Wong Ah Jang, J.P., Dato Stia Bakti;

Sri Jaffar bin Abdul Patah, J.P.;

Mr. Leong Sin Nam, J.P., M.S.C.;

Orang Kaya Kaya Panglima Kinta, Che Wan bin Muhammad Yusuf, J.P., M.S.C.;

Orang Kaya Kaya Dato' Shahbandar, Inche Ahmad bin Muhammad Taib, M.S.C.

C. W. H. COCHRANE,

Chief Secretary to Government,

Federated Malay States.

KUALA LUMPUR,

2nd June, 1930.

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Appendix A.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—GENERAL RETURN OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE, TRADE, AND POPULATION.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Trade.		Exports of Tin and Tin-ore (in Tons).	Duty on Tin.	Exports of Rubber (in Tons).	Duty on Rubber.	Land Revenue and Land Sales.	Railway Receipts.	Population.	Year.
			Imports.	Exports.								
	$	$	$	$		$		$	$	$		
1889	5,013,000	4,091,078	15,653,456	19,720,689	26,029	1,750,008	...	...	190,538	359,025	373,343	1889
1890	4,840,065	5,237,275	15,443,809	17,602,093	26,976	1,609,401	...	...	166,054	406,032	398,780	1890
1891	4,572,310	5,554,800	14,889,942	18,495,554	32,114	1,573,441	...	...	199,680	414,889	424,218§	1891
1892	5,347,189	5,883,407	19,161,159	22,662,359	33,477	2,097,274	...	...	300,680	537,111	449,656	1892
1893	6,413,134	6,797,538	21,896,117	27,373,760	39,912	2,602,380	...	...	347,600	723,934	475,093	1893
1894	7,511,809	7,162,396	24,499,615	32,703,147	47,676	3,238,000	...	...	457,262	986,617	500,531	1894
1895	8,481,007	7,582,553	22,653,271	31,622,805	49,592	3,379,813	...	...	468,239	1,294,390	525,969	1895
1896	8,434,083	8,598,147	21,148,895	28,395,355	48,541	3,126,974	...	...	511,237	1,344,994	551,407	1896
1897	8,296,687	8,795,313	25,000,682	31,148,340	44,095	2,716,263	...	...	636,054	1,294,139	576,844	1897
1898	9,364,467	11,110,042	27,116,446	35,241,003	41,167	3,210,699	...	...	636,927	1,394,720	602,282	1898
1899	13,486,410	11,499,478	33,765,073	54,895,139	38,960	6,181,542	...	...	639,899	1,722,475	627,720	1899
1900	15,609,807	12,728,930	38,402,581	60,361,045	43,111	7,050,382	...	...	712,898	2,254,742	653,157	1900
1901	17,541,507	17,273,158	39,524,603	63,107,177	47,475	6,968,183	...	...	626,114	2,377,040	678,595§	1901
1902	20,550,543	15,986,247	45,757,240	71,350,243	47,258	8,438,775	...	...	661,668	2,856,640	714,435	1902
1903	22,672,567	16,219,872	47,790,059	80,253,944	50,842	9,590,505	...	...	721,304	3,608,054	750,276	1903
1904	22,255,269	19,318,768	46,955,742	77,620,084	51,733	8,814,688	...	...	801,959	3,605,029	786,116	1904
1905	23,964,593	20,750,395	50,575,455	80,057,654	50,991	9,249,627	104	...	887,593	3,940,599	821,957	1905
1906	27,223,476	18,899,425	50,926,606	80,832,325	48,617	10,036,798	432	50,023	1,437,753	4,564,100	857,797	1906
1907	28,793,745	20,225,993	52,542,277	80,593,196	48,429	9,395,825	905	97,752	1,701,682	5,200,911	893,637	1907
1908	24,623,325	25,874,573	48,171,243	65,599,933	50,835	7,285,864	1,402	113,981	1,598,713	5,066,153	929,478	1908
1909	25,246,863	23,633,851	46,194,598	76,273,438	48,743	7,155,124	2,698	360,055	1,623,876	5,188,111	965,318	1909
1910	26,553,018	23,598,610	53,255,151	102,851,990	43,862	7,162,026	5,439	962,973	2,201,469	5,868,507	1,001,159	1910
1911	35,056,544	25,202,749	66,532,039	116,280,927	44,148	8,818,764	8,792	999,207	2,290,962	7,058,689	1,036,999§	1911
1912	42,647,687	30,990,487	76,122,679	154,974,195	48,420	10,850,121	15,638	1,576,224	2,875,414	8,421,016	1,109,017	1912
1913	44,332,711	47,287,581	86,409,157	148,669,498	50,126	10,729,888*	23,720	1,395,923	2,790,451*	9,469,446*	1,117,625	1913
1914	37,309,943	55,010,037	72,140,005‖	122,962,929‖	49,042	7,046,869	31,012	1,334,245	2,562,436	9,133,911	1,136,500	1914
1915	40,774,984	42,838,631	60,015,935‖	161,838,118‖	46,766	7,235,086	56,782	2,401,914	2,597,836	9,187,512	1,172,336	1915

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1916	51,121,856	31,966,581	69,621,113‖	219,943,686‖	43,870	7,903,785	62,813	3,851,815	3,068,766	11,616,696	1,208,177	1916
1917	65,553,186	40,878,746	73,261,725	271,485,389‖	39,833	9,331,288	80,022	4,914,781	3,308,464	13,189,829	1,244,018	1917
1918	68,448,862	45,286,910	74,750,746	223,066,282‖	37,370	13,141,841	78,389	2,254,556	3,657,454	13,106,413	1,279,859	1918
1919	72,135,075	70,676,961	118,854,965	279,135,105	36,934	9,944,177	106,453	4,883,123	3,533,829	14,957,460	1,315,700	1919
1920	72,277,146	100,433,471	170,522,123	288,715,698	34,934	12,203,531	101,330	4,443,100	4,004,095	17,316,533	1,300,000	1920
1921	54,449,568	114,386,546	102,914,877	134,955,549	34,489	6,153,360	94,510	164,169	3,568,490	16,198,426	1,298,292§	1921
1922	52,494,110	49,811,007	78,822,349	140,429,775	35,286	5,766,808	128,461	802,390	3,731,041	13,816,324	1,360,876	1922
1923	63,952,132	52,825,572	89,088,237	197,100,950	37,650	8,265,195	101,311	4,664,374	3,919,900	14,675,106	1,389,667	1923
1924	70,715,407	54,161,234	97,436,302	212,884,740	44,043	12,543,624	93,507	4,228,677	4,135,322	16,210,202	1,418,455	1924
1925	86,564,279	69,550,382	137,116,207	411,878,610	45,926	13,988,887	107,178	8,667,701	3,933,622†	18,743,352	1,447,243	1925
1926	102,541,400	87,663,747	173,887,724	445,600,203	45,947	15,604,582	160,213	11,193,115	5,389,042	21,640,545	1,476,032	1926
1927	105,404,458	93,263,915	176,161,194	339,925,603	52,179	17,704,590	127,602	8,571,967	6,656,724	23,055,515	1,504,823	1927
1928	95,655,560	109,004,240	191,473,471	278,523,482	61,935	16,034,740	174,490	3,710,604	6,639,808	22,347,560	1,533,612	1928
1929	81,799,584	84,660,975	201,393,405	349,012,595	67,041	15,424,409	261,352	4,312,922	6,694,598	23,331,618	1,562,401	1929

NOTE.—The total Revenue and the total Expenditure of Perak, Selangor and Negri Sembilan in 1875 were, respectively, $409,394 and $436,872. Figures for Pahang first appear in 1889. Federation dates from 1st July, 1896. § A census of the population was taken in 1891, 1901, 1911 and 1921. The population of Perak in 1879 was estimated at 81,084, and in 1889 at 194,801; that of Selangor in 1884 at 46,568 and in 1887 at 97,106. No figures for the other States are given prior to 1891.
* As now corrected. ‖ Excluding bullion and specie. † The figures for previous years included items now omitted owing to reclassification of revenue.

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Appendix B.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS STERLING LOAN CAPITAL ACCOUNT TO 31st DECEMBER, 1929.

Dr. *Cr.*

To Loan Expenses—	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	By Loan Subscription—	$ c.
Interest on Deferred instalments, 6 per cent. Loan	268,092 28			(i) 6 per cent. 1936 to 1951 issued at £97 in December, 1921...	44,185,714 29
Interest on Deferred instalments, 4½ per cent. Loan	110,958 96	379,051 24		(ii) 4½ per cent. 1935 to 1945 issued at £95 in May, 1922 ...	36,000,000 00
Composition Stamp Duty, 6 per cent. Loan	552,321 42				
Composition Stamp Duty, 4½ per cent. Loan	360,000 00	912,321 42			
Discount on Issue Price, 6 per cent. Loan	1,325,571 43				
Discount on Issue Price, 4½ per cent. Loan	1,800,000 00	3,125,571 43			
Underwriting Commission, 6 per cent. Loan	441,857 14				
Underwriting Commission, 4½ per cent. Loan	360,000 00	801,857 14			
Commission for obtaining Underwriting, 6 per cent. Loan	110,464 29				
Commission for obtaining Underwriting, 4½ per cent. Loan	96,000 00	200,464 29			
Crown Agents' Commission, 6 per cent. Loan	110,464 29				
Crown Agents' Commission, 4½ per cent. Loan	90,000 00	200,464 29			
Brokerage to Sundry Brokers and Bankers on the allotment of Stock, 6 per cent. Loan	108,049 28				
Brokerage to Sundry Brokers and Bankers on the allotment of Stock, 4½ per cent. Loan	89,355 00	197,404 28			
Miscellaneous—Stamp, etc., 6 per cent. Loan	5,873 21				
Miscellaneous—Stamp, etc., 4½ per cent. Loan	4,475 18	10,348 39			
Advertisement, 6 per cent. Loan	31,052 18				
Advertisement, 4½ per cent. Loan	29,630 03	60,682 21			
To Loan Works—			5,888,164 69		
Public Works Department	...	20,367,692 10			
Posts and Telegraphs Department	...	4,004,712 47			
Topographical Survey Department	...	763,362 66			
Topographical Survey of Forest Reserves ...	...	67,063 83			
Railways—Open Lines	...	9,196,237 08			
„ Construction	...	37,989,017 91			
			72,388,086 05		
To Balance ...	...	...	1,909,463 55		
			$80,185,714 29		$80,185,714 29

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MALAYA
1929

Scale 20 Miles to an Inch

Miles 10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles

SIAM

STRAITS OF MALACCA

CHINA SEA

SUMATRA

PERLIS
KANGAR
Arau
P. TERUTAU
P. Tg. Dindang
P. LANGKAWI
P. Repak
P. Tepor
P. Timun
P. Bras Basah
P. LADA
P. TUBA
P. DAYANG BUNTING
P. Lembu
P. Segantang
P. Payar
K. Kedah
KUBANG PASU
JITRA
PADANG TERAP
S. Kedah
S. Pdg. Terap
ALOR STAR
KOTA STAR
S. Jeneri
SIK
YEN
KEDAH
SIK
BALING
P. Bunting
BUNTING ISLANDS
YEN
P. Bidan
KUALA MUDA
K. Merbok
S. Merbok
S. Muda
S. Ketil
BALING
GS. PATANI
K. Muda
NORTHERN PROVINCE
BUTTERWORTH
Prai
GEORGE TOWN
PENANG
BALIK PULAU
BT. MERTAJAM
WELLESLEY
P. Jerejak
P. Kras
SOUTHERN
KULIM
KULIM
BANDAR BAHRU
SELAMA
K. Kriang
NIBONG TEBAL
BANDAR BAHRU
PARIT BUNTAR
K. Kurau
Bagan Serai
KUALA KANGSAR
LENGGONG
S. Piah
S. PERAK
DARUT
TAIPING
Port Weld
MATANG
KUALA KANGSAR
PERAK
MATANG
Tanjong Rambutan
Ipoh
KINTA
GOPENG
BATU GAJAH
Tronoh
CAMERON'S HIGHLANDS
S. Bertam
P. Talang
DINDINGS
P. PANGKOR
P. Pangkor Laut
P. Katak
S. Kinta
S. Batang Padang
S. Jor
Tapah Road
APAH
BIDOR
LOWER BATANG PADANG
PERAK
SEMBILAN ISLANDS
P. Rumbia
K. PERAK
TELOK ANSON
K. BERNAM
S. BERNAM
Tepah
Klong Sai
Yala
S. Sokong
S. Tebh.
Sungei Patani
Sungei Telubin
S. Tanjong Mas
Tanjong Mas
K. Patani
K. Tokong
K. Besar
KOTA BHARU
KOTA BHARU
PASIR MAS
S. Golok
Golok
BACHOK
BACHOK
PASIR MAS
PASIR PUTEH
PASIR PUTEH
S. KELANTAN
TOMOH
BETONG
KROH
Klian Intan
S. Perak
S. Sengoh
UPPER PERAK
GRIK
Manek Urai
ULU KELANTAN
KUALA KRAI
S. Pergau
S. Lebir
KELANTAN
PERHENTIAN ISLANDS
TURTLEBACK I.
P. LANTINGA
GREAT REDANG
KG. RAJA
KUALA SETIU
BESUT
SETIU
S. Besut
P. Gulu
P. Yu Besar
P. Yu Kechil
Bt. Terokit
Little Redang (P. Bedung)
K. TRENGGANU
KUALA TRENGGANU
P. KAPAS
KUALA MARANG
S. Telemong
KUALA BRANG
KUALA BRANG
S. Trengganu
MARANG
S. Karbat
TRENGGANU
KUALA DUNGUN
P. TENGGOL
S. Dungun
DUNGUN
S. Paka
KUALA PAKA
PAKA
KRETAI
KEMASIK
KEMASIK
S. Tebak
KEMAMAN
KEMAMAN
K. Kemaman
S. Cherol
S. Spia
S. Sat
S. Kemyang
G. TAHAN
Merapoh
S. Liman
S. Gadas
S. Neruri
S. Piah
LENGGONG
S. Telom
S. Chegar Prah
S. Tanum
S. Serau
S. Kechau
S. Tahan
S. Trembeling
LIPIS
KUALA LIPIS
S. Lipis
S. Trengan
S. Tekai
Jerantut
RAUB
RAUB
PAHANG
KUANTAN
KUANTAN
S. Kuantan
S. Krau
S. Lompat
S. Tris
S. Jempol
S. Lepar
SUNGEI PAHANG
PEKAN
K. PAHANG
Chini Lake
TEMERLOH
S. Semantan
S. Bilut
BENTONG
S. Klau
BENTONG
TEMERLOH
S. Triang
S. Jerum
S. Bera
Tasek Bera
PEKAN
S. Merchong
S. Kenabor
S. Keratong
S. Rompin
K. Rompin
P. Berhala
P. TULAI
P. TIOMAN
P. SEMBILANG
K. Endau
P. SRIBUAT
P. PEMANGGIL
P. Stindan
P. BABI BESAR
P. TINGGI
P. SIBU
P. Sanggol
P. Yu
MERSING
ENDAU
S. Endau
S. Selati
S. Sembrong
S. Medek
S. Mersing
S. Pontian
S. Paloh
SEGAMAT
SEGAMAT
S. Segamat
MUAR
S. MUAR
BANDAR MAHARANI (MUAR)
P. Besar
P. Undan
JOHORE
BATU PAHAT
Kluang
JOHORE BAHRU
S. Sedili Besar
KOTA TINGGI
KOTA TINGGI
S. Johore
Kulai
KUKUP
JOHORE BAHRU
P. Pisang
P. KUKUP
KUKUP
SINGAPORE
P. Ubin
P. Tekong Besar
P. Ayer Chawan
P. Bukum
P. Semakau
SINGAPORE
P. BLAKANG MATI
P. Senang
Pedra Branca Horsburgh
GREAT KERIMUN
P. BATAM
P. BINTANG
P. RUPAT
P. MEDANG
SELAT O RUPAT
BREWER STRAIT or SELAT PANJANG
P. BENGKALIS
P. PADANG
P. MERBAU
P. RANGSANG
S. Rokan
S. Asahan
P. Angsa
P. KETAM
P. TENGAH
P. SELAT KERING
P. PINTU GEDONG
S. KLANG
S. Langat
KLANG
K. LUMPUR
S. Buloh
KUALA LUMPUR
SELANGOR
Serendah
Rawang
K. SELANGOR
S. SELANGOR
ULU SELANGOR
K. KUBU
KUALA SELANGOR
S. Tinggi
ULU LANGAT
KAJANG
KUALA LANGAT
PELOK DATOH
Banting
S. Langat
JELEBU
KUALA KLAWANG
S. Triang
NEGRI SEMBILAN
MANTIN
SEREMBAN
SEREMBAN
K. PILAH
KUALA PILAH
Bahau
S. Muar
S. Lenggeng
S. Rembau
PORT DICKSON
PORT DICKSON (COAST)
TAMPIN
TAMPIN
NORTHERN
ALOR GAJAH
MALACCA
CENTRAL
JASIN
SOUTHERN
MALACCA TOWN
Gemas
S. Linggi
S. Pajam
S. Asahan

REFERENCE

Symbols

Railway Line Open
.. Under Construction
Roads
State Boundary

MALAY PENINSULA
Scale
0 36 72 108 144 MILES

F. M. S Surveys No. 200. 1929.

Published under the direction of the Surveyor General, F. M. S. & S. S.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BRITISH ADVISER TO THE KEDAH GOVERNMENT

for the year 1347 A.H.

(20TH JUNE, 1928—8TH JUNE, 1929)

BY

T. W. CLAYTON,

British Adviser to the Kedah Government,

WITH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BRITISH ADVISER TO THE PERLIS GOVERNMENT

for the same period

BY

L. A. ALLEN,

Acting British Adviser to the Perlis Government.

Alor Star:

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STATE OF KEDAH.

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STATE OF KEDAH.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1347 (20TH JUNE 1928 TO 8TH JUNE 1929).

(The value of the dollar is 2s. 4d).

PREFATORY NOTE.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

1. Kedah is a Malay State on the West Coast of the Malay Peninsula, situated between the parallels of 5.50 and 6.40 North Latitude and the meridians of 99.40 and 100.55 East Longitude. It is bordered on the interior by the Siamese States of Singora and Patani, and by the State of Perak (Federated Malay States); it extends northwards on the sea coast to the River Sanglang, its boundary with its northern neighbour, the State of Perlis (under British protection), and southwards to the Muda River, its boundary with Province Wellesley in the south: thence the State extends behind Province Wellesley down to the northern bank of the Krian River, which forms its boundary with Perak.

2. The State includes the island of Langkawi, and a number of adjoining islands, of which Pulau Tuba is the largest. The mainland of Kedah is about 105 miles in length, and at its widest part is about 65 miles in width. Its area including the Langkawi group of islands is about 3,648 square miles. The two highest peaks of the mainland are Gunong Jerai—better known as Kedah Peak (3,986 feet)—and Bukit Perak (2,820 feet). Gunong Raia on Langkawi Island is 2,950 feet high.

HISTORICAL.

3. The earliest references to Kedah with its capital Langkasuka are to be found in the "Hikaiat Marong Mahawangsa" or "Kedah Annals". Various mention of Quedah is made by Portuguese and Dutch writers, and in 1592 Captain Lancaster called at Pulopinaon (Penang).

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4. During the next 200 years the fortunes of Kedah varied under the rule of Siam until, in 1786 A.D. under Captain Light's "Agreement with the King of Quedah for the cession of Prince of Wales' Island", Penang was occupied and the British Flag hoisted there on 12th August, 1786.

5. This Agreement was modified by Treaty in 1791 whereby the Kedah Government was to receive $6,000 every year from the Honourable East India Company "so long as the English continue in possession of Pulo Pinang". In 1800 the strip of coast territory now known as Province Wellesley was ceded to the Honourable East India Company in return for a further $4,000 per annum. These annual payments are still made by the Straits Settlements Government.

6. Upon the occupation of Kedah in 1821 A.D., the Siamese Government divided the Kingdom of Kedah into four parts: Setul, Perlis, Kubang Pasu and Kedah, placing each under a separate ruler. In A.D. 1843, the Sultan of Kedah (who, after his escape to Province Wellesley in 1821, had lived in retreat in Malacca) was allowed to return to Alor Star, and to reassume the rulership of the last mentioned of these four parts. Setul, Perlis and Kubang Pasu, however, remained under their separate rulers, who were made independent of the Sultan of Kedah.

7. Kubang Pasu is a sparsely populated district in the interior of Kedah, between Kota Star and the Singora frontier, and when Tunku Anum, the Rajah of Kubang Pasu, died some years later the Siamese Government allowed the district to again become part of Kedah. It is now administered by a District Officer. The Raja of Perlis is independent of the Sultan of Kedah, and has an entirely separate Government. Setul is now a part of Siam.

8. His Highness Sir Abdul Hamid Halim Shah, K.C.M.G., ibni Sultan Ahmad Tajudin, the present Sultan, succeeded to the throne in the year A.D. 1881. In consequence of His Highness' bad health, his eldest son, H.H. Tunku Ibrahim, C.M.G., C.V.O., has acted as Regent since the year 1914.

9. On the 23rd July, 1905, the Sultan issued an Edict appointing a Council of State to assist in the "Administration of all Public Affairs".

10 On the 10th March, 1909 the Anglo-Siamese Treaty was signed whereby the suzerainty of Kedah was transferred from Siam to Great Britain.

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11. On the 1st November, 1923 at Singapore, a Treaty was signed between the British and the Kedah Governments, by which the Kedah Government agreed to continue under the protection of His Britannic Majesty, who shall exercise the rights of suzerainty, and also to accept a British Adviser.

I—GENERAL.

1. The unit of currency is the Straits Dollar which is stabilised at 2s. 4d., and is divided into 100 cents.

2. The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation have branches at Alor Star and Sungei Patani respectively.

3. The unit of weight is the picul (133 1/3 lbs) which is divided into 100 katis. English and various Chinese weights are also in use. The gantang (equivalent to a gallon) is the unit of measure.

4. The official language of Kedah is Malay, the Malay version of the laws being that used in the Courts. English, Chinese, Tamil and other languages are extensively used, but a very large proportion of the population use Malay as the "Lingua Franca".

5. The Muhammadan calendar in which the year consists normally of 354 days is followed.

6. The climate consists of a fairly well defined wet season from about the end of July to November and a shorter one of about six weeks duration in April and May. In South Kedah the seasons are slightly earlier.

7. The mean temperature ranges from about 74° to 94° Fahrenheit.

8. The average annual rainfall at Alor Star is about 82 inches, and the figure in South Kedah a little higher.

II—FINANCIAL.

9 The Revenue for 1347 amounted to $6,886,576 as compared with $7,722,507 in 1346 and $8,988,429 in 1345, and was $222,621 below the estimate.

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10. A comparative statement of Revenue collected under various headings is shown in Appendix 'B'. The main decreases were under Customs, Opium Monopoly, Court Fees, etc., Farms and Licences, and Forests. Details of Customs revenue are given under the heading "Monopolies and Customs." The low price of rubber during the first seven months of the year was the main factor in the fall in revenue, but figures for the last few months of the year showed improvement.

11. The chief increases were under "Reimbursements", "Miscellaneous" and "Interest".

12. The percentage contributions of the principal heads of revenue to the total revenue during the last ten years are as under:—

Heads.	1338	1339	1340	1341	1342	1343	1344	1345	1346	1347
Opium Monopoly ...	45	30	31	30	30	30¼	26½	29¼	28	27.25
Customs (Liquor and Tobacco)... ...	9½	11	8½	8¾	9¼	19¼	10½	11⅞	13	13.80
Customs (Other heads)	11½	10	11	18½	18¼	20	31	24⅝	20¾	16.10
Land Revenue including Land Sales	20	25½	18	17	18	18¼	15	18½	14¼	16.10
Other Heads ...	14	23½	31½	25¾	24½	19¼	17	19¾	24	26.75
TOTAL ...	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

13. The total Expenditure in 1347 was $7,245,091 as compared with $7,335,338 in 1346 and $6,396,507 in 1345, and was $983,042 below the estimate. A sum of $300,000 for the Opium Revenue Replacement Fund is included in the expenditure.

14. Comparison with previous years' figures for each department is rendered difficult, as this year the Clerical Service has been shown under a separate head in the estimates instead of, as heretofore, under each department.

15. The increase under Miscellaneous is due to the expenditure of $193,000 on "Purchase of Land" and that under Education is due to the opening of new schools and the increasing enrolment in existing schools.

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16. Investments at the close of the year stood at $10,880,213 (including the Opium Revenue Replacement and Investments Depreciation Reserves). The Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve was increased from $4,222,500 to $4,939,556 during the year. It was found necessary during the year to realise $200,000 worth of securities in order to meet immediate needs.

17. The excess of assets over the liabilities at the end of the year, as shown in the balance sheet, amounted to $5,915,375. This does not include the Opium Revenue Replacement and Investments Depreciation Reserves, which now amount to $4,939,556 and $130,000 respectively.

18. In addition there is a further asset of approximately $500,000, accrued compound interest on the Chartered Bank 4½% Fixed Deposits, which is added to the principal sum as it falls due each half year.

19. The following are shown in Appendices:—

Appendix 'A'—Balance Sheet as at 29th Zulhijjah, 1347 (8th June, 1929).

Appendix 'B'—Statement of Revenue for the last five years.

Appendix 'C'—Statement of Expenditure for the last five years.

Appendix 'D'—List of Investments.

III—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

20. The total area planted with padi in 1347 was 179,798 acres, of which 176,838 was wet padi, and the estimated yield is 45,405,735 gantangs (gallons) which is 7,930,427 less than in 1346. The decrease is accounted for by a drought which occurred whilst the seedlings were still in the nurseries, and when the rain came many were either dead or too old to transplant into the bendangs. Padi fields near the coast were badly damaged by sea water.

21. An experimental station for padi is maintained at Telok Kechai. Different species of padi are planted here with a view to producing a pure strain and distributing it to the raiats. Seed was obtained from the Federated Malay States Experimental Station near Parit Buntar, and experiments are also carried out in manuring. It was found that Ammosphos was a suitable manure for nurseries.

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22. Some damage was caused by the Larvae of Spodoptera in the nurseries in certain mukims. These nurseries were sprayed with tuba water. The crow also is useful in devouring the insects. Slight damage was caused also by the padi borer.

23. Padi fields near jungle were fenced against the inroads of wild pig, a number of which were destroyed by hunting and trapping.

24. The area alienated for rubber cultivation is approximately 357,000 acres, of which it is estimated that 300,000 acres are planted.

25. The restrictions on the export of rubber were removed as from 1st November, 1928 (16.5.1347), which resulted at once in a largely increased export.

26. Advice on the clearing of rubber holdings, and the treatment of wounds caused by bad tapping, and rubber tree diseases was given by the Department. 1,400 metres of budwood and 233,000 rubber seeds were imported from Sumatra by European planters under certificates of freedom from pest and disease.

27. Mouldy rot again gave trouble in Kulim and Bandar Bahru districts. Pink disease was also troublesome amongst Asiatic holdings in Kuala Muda and Baling districts. Advice was given as to treatment. Notices were served and a few prosecutions were instituted. The Giant Snail attacked vegetable and flowering plants, but did not cause serious trouble.

28. An area of five relongs (about 3½ acres) of land in Padang Trap district was set apart by Government for an experiment in coffee planting.

29. The area under tapioca cultivation was about 10,994 acres. It is entirely in the hands of Chinese. Some experimental work is being undertaken by the Department in order to test how many crops can be grown on the same land without exhausting the soil. Samples were sent to the Agricultural Department, Kuala Lumpur for investigation.

30. There is one European Tea Estate on the Gurun-Bigia Road. Approximately 300 acres are now in bearing out of a total of 985 acres planted, and the plants appear to be thriving. A factory has been built and machinery was to be installed early in 1348.

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31. About 600 acres of coffee were planted by Chinese as a catchcrop among young rubber. The Department assisted by ordering some seed from Kuala Lumpur.

32. Inspection of Kampongs and coconut plantations was carried out by the Department. 495 notices for breach of the Coconut Trees Preservation Enactment were issued and 22 cases brought to Court.

33. The staff consisted of an Agricultural Officer (Malay) seconded from the Federated Malay States, and three Assistant Agricultural Officers.

34. The expenditure of the Department was $18,599.

FORESTS.

35. Fifteen areas comprising approximately 568 square miles were preliminarily notified as Forest Reserves, but only the Parit Buntar Catchment Reserve was ready for final notification by the end of the year.

36. 424 miles of boundary clearing was carried out at the low cost of $1.52 per mile. No new clearing was done, which enabled the work to be done by subordinates instead of employing coolies. In several reserves boundaries must be altered to exclude alienated land, and to facilitate final selection of boundaries, reclearing was necessary.

37. 420 acres of mangrove forest in the Merbok and Kisap Reserves were opened for exploitation.

38. In the plantations in Jerai and Sungkop reserves, merbau and tembusu are well established, and the brazil nut plants thrive where they have full light.

39. The outturn of timber and firewood amounted to 24,685 and 14,368 tons respectively compared with 27,328 and 14,995 tons in the previous year. The outturn of charcoal was 19,586 tons as against 18,836. Penang is the principal market for Kedah produce, and prices have declined during the past two years.

40. The outturn of rotan and bamboos was 1,136 running feet and 270,143 respectively, shows little change from the previous year.

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41. The output of Jelutong rose by 136 piculs. Where supervision is possible, tapping is well done, but in outlying districts cancellation of permits is under consideration as supervision is not possible.

42. 182 piculs of damar batu were produced as against nil in the previous year. In Inas reserve, in an attempt to cut out the middleman, Malays have been allotted fifty trees each.

43. Over 200 herbarium specimens were sent to Kuala Lumpur for identification. Apart from increasing the knowledge of the composition of our forests, this is very valuable in discovering the different vernacular names by which the same species is known in Kedah and the Federated Malay States.

44. An experiment was made in the tapping of Kemenyan, the source of gum benjamin, but it is too early yet to say whether the results will be justified.

45. The Revenue and Expenditure of the Department were $107,556 and $47,651 respectively as against $121,540 and $59,071. The reduction in expenditure this year is partly accounted for by the non-inclusion of $8,036 cost of the Clerical Service, which is now shown separately in the Kedah Estimates.

MINING.

46. The total revenue collected from mines in 1347 was $57,333 as compared with $65,696 in 1346 and an estimate of $60,950. The main decrease was in export duty and is accounted for by the fall in the price of tin.

47. Expenditure amounted to $6,958 as against $8,952 in the previous year and an estimate of $8,949.

48. The export of mineral ores in tons was as follows:—

	1347	*1346*	*1345*
Tin Ore	372	396	401
Wolfram	73	31	96

49. The number of coolies employed at the end of the year was 915 as against 1,119 in the previous year. Of these 316 were employed on open cast, 253 underground and 346 on hydraulicing.

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50. Dredging work at Karangan had not been begun by the end of the year. It seems probable that Mines revenue will continue to diminish year by year owing to the fact that the tin bearing area is mostly so situated as to cause risk of damage to rivers and padi lands if work were allowed.

51. The total area alienated for mining was 8,398 relongs at the end of the year. Titles comprising 286 relongs were cancelled for breach of labour conditions, and 60 relongs reverted to Government for arrears of rent.

52. Twelve applications for prospecting licences were received of which ten were refused and two withdrawn. Two remained in force throughout the year.

53. No new leases were granted. One application was under consideration.

IV—TRADE.

54. The aggregate value of trade for the year was $43,164,678 as compared with $37,789,934 for the previous year. Exports showed an increase of $6,049,062 owing to an increase of quantity of rubber exported while imports showed a decrease of $674,318.

55. The following table shows under the main heads the values for the past four years:—

		Import.	Export.
A.—Live Animals, food, drinks, tobacco	1344	5,550,386	3,528,636
	1345	5,940,328	6,997,258
	1346	5,274,997	6,315,361
	1347	4,600,721	4,962,328
B.—Raw Materials	1344	576,423	46,674,646
	1345	451,073	35,914,404
	1346	456.272	21,731,261
	1347	421,909	29,371,047
C.—Totally or Mainly maunfactured articles	1344	4.310,122	366,387
	1345	3,811,925	387,345
	1346	3.548,906	463,137
	1347	3.583,227	225,446

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MONOPOLIES AND CUSTOMS.

56. The total revenue collected, exclusive of Chandu Monopoly, amounted to $2,354,492 as compared with $2,925,265 in 1346.

57. The following table shows the differences in duty collected in 1347 and 1346:—

Export duties	1347	1346
Bricks	2,389	6,549
Cattle	942	1,038
Fish	90,550	59,701
Forest produce	40,283	63,185
Hides	5,865	4,197
Pigs	11,802	14,442
Poultry and Eggs	56,837	56,183
Rice and padi	127,798	173,702
Rubber	541,851	959,300
Tapioca	39,808	40,217
Tin	50,060	60,583
Agricultural Produce	20,930	15,212
Import duties.		
Liquors	256,468	285,092
Tobacco	693,265	723,371
Petroleum	119,298	141,650
TOTAL CUSTOMS ...	2,058,146	2,604,122
Liquor Licences	289,726	315,885
Miscellaneous Receipts	5,153	3,480
Port Clearance	1,467	1,478
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,354,492	2,925,265

58. Import duty on liquors and tobacco is collected in Penang on behalf of the Kedah Government by the Assistant Superintendent, Government Monopolies, Straits Settlements.

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59. The decrease of nearly $600,000 as compared with the previous year's figures is attributable directly and indirectly to the low price of rubber. Export duty on rice was affected by the padi harvest, the crops not approaching those of 1346, which were the best ever recorded.

60. It was anticipated that the export duty on rubber would be even lower than it was, owing to the removal of restriction, but the price did not slump as was feared, and the figures for the last five months of the year showed great improvement.

61. Thirty seven cases were brought to Court for offences against the Customs laws resulting in 29 convictions, in which fines totalling $2,382 were inflicted.

OPIUM MONOPOLY.

62. The amount realised on sales of chandu (prepared opium) was $2,262,759 as against $2,664,380 in 1346. The net revenue after deducting $385,197 cost of chandu paid to the Straits Settlements Government was $1,877,561.

63. Chandu revenue was also indirectly affected by the price of rubber.

64. The amount of chandu sold was 226,864 ounces avoirdupois as against 267,036 in the previous year.

65. Three chandu smoking saloons at Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Kulim respectively and 41 Chandu Retail shops in the State were maintained and conducted by the Department.

EXCISE.

66. The issue and renewal of liquor and toddy shop licences is controlled by three Licensing Boards for North, Central and South Kedah, all of which have a representative appointed by the Kedah Planters' Association.

67. Sixty six cases for infringement of the excise laws were brought, resulting in 49 convictions.

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V—COMMUNICATIONS.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

68. There are 13 Post Offices staffed by officers of the Department and 6 places at which postal business is transacted by Railway Station Masters and others. The Postal Service in Perlis is also controlled by the Department.

69. The estimated number of postal articles (excluding parcels and registered letters) posted and delivered during the year was 3,605,290 as against 3,276,169 in the previous year. Detailed statistics are shown in Appendix 'E.'

70. Savings bank business increased considerably during the year. A detailed statement is given in Appendix 'F.'

71. No new telegraph circuit was installed, but the Kulim and Bagan Samak line was tapped at Serdang for the new Post Office.

72. From 1st December, 1928 the Alor Star Telegraph Office ceased to work with Songkhla and Kantang in Siam, the new route being to Haadyai, which is the new terminal station for Siam. This resulted in messages for Kelantan from Penang and places south thereof having to be transmitted from Kedah to Haadyai, instead of being sent as before direct from Penang to Tungsong on the Penang-Bangkok line. As a further result the telegraph staff at Alor Star had to be augmented and the credit for Kelantan messages due to Kedah was raised from 5/6th of a cent to one cent.

73. New telephone switch boards for Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Kulim arrived during the year. The former was set up and the inside equipment nearly completed. It is hoped to get it working in the near future.

74. The remodelling of the trunk telephone system was in progress throughout the year, and arrangements are being made to replace the wooden poles on the Kulim-Bagan Samak line with iron ones.

75. A Telegraph Engineer was added to the staff during the year, and the Engineering and Postal branches were separated. A number of boys have been sent to Kuala Lumpur for training in various branches. Some have returned to Kedah after completing their training, and are working satisfactorily.

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76. It has been decided to establish wireless communication between Langkawi and Alor Star, and it is hoped that the stations will be in working order early in 1349.

77. The total revenue of the Department was $128,099 as against $126,071 in the previous year, and total expenditure $213,233 of which $99,881 was spent on "Remodelling Trunk Telephone Lines".

SHIPPING.

78. The ports of Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Langkawi (Kuah) are visited by small vessels belonging to the Straits Steamship Company, Penang, and there is a considerable coasting trade of motor boats, junks, etc. Penang is the connecting port for ocean going steamers.

RAILWAYS.

79. The Federated Malay States Railway main line from Penang to Siam runs through Kedah from the south to the north and passes through both Sungei Patani and Alor Star. All stations are connected by road with the main roads, except Junun, and provision is being made in the 1348 Estimates for a road connecting Junun Station with the main road.

ROADS ETC.

80. 367 miles of metalled and 102 miles of unmetalled roads were upkept during the year. Of the metalled roads, the greater portion is asphalted.

81. Besides normal upkeep, considerable work was done in replacing temporary bridges and culverts with permanent reinforced concrete works and in widening existing roads which have become too narrow for the present volume of traffic.

82. The average cost of upkeep of metalled roads was $1,571 per mile and of unmetalled $199 per mile.

83. 252 miles of canals were maintained. These are chiefly drainage canals, but with the rivers are considerably used for communication purposes.

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VI—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

COURTS.

84. The Judicial system consists of the High Court of two Divisions, presided over respectively by a European Judge and two Malay Judges, District and Police Courts. A Court of Appeal composed of Judges of the Straits Settlements or the Federated Malay States sits twice yearly to hear appeals from the First Division of the High Court. A special sitting was arranged in April at Sungei Patani to hear appeals in two murder cases.

85. Cases involving the Muhammadan religion are dealt with by the Sharaiah Courts presided over by Kathis.

86. Appendix 'G' shows the work done by the Courts in 1347.

POLICE.

87. The force was maintained at its full strength of 764 during the year. Personal orderlies, dog-shooters and other supernumeraries who were previously drawn from the ranks of the force were returned to duty, and special persons paid from special votes engaged in their places, thus increasing the effective working strength by 11 constables. There was no lack of recruits and the standard of height was raised by two inches to 5 feet 2 inches. All recruits accepted could read and write Jawi, and were instructed in drill and the rudiments of Law and Police Duties, but the need of properly qualified instructors was felt.

88. The Detective force worked well.

89. The health and discipline of the force was satisfactory, but there remains a number of prematurely aged and inefficient officers to be weeded out.

90. The total number of reports made to the Police was 6,989 as compared with 5,973 in the previous year. The number of cases increased by 246 to 3,861 and of convictions by 37 to 2,867.

91. Cases of voluntarily causing hurt increased by 333 and of theft by 222. Murder cases numbered 18 as against 12 in the previous year and culpable homicide not amounting to murder 9 as against 3. There was one case of gang robbery with murder and 109 of house breaking and trespass—an increase of 13.

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92. On the other hand there were decreases in gang robbery, robbery and cattle theft.

93. The value of property stolen at $32,604 was $9,770 less than in the previous year, but the total of property involved in all cases was practically the same as in the previous year, namely $78,755.

94. The arrest and sentence to death of a well known gang robber and murderer had an excellent effect on the population near the Siamese border.

95. Persons banished numbered twenty-six—one Tamil and the remainder Chinese. Fourteen of these were members of a Sin Ghee Hin unlawful society. The total was 14 fewer than in 1346.

96. There were 156 cases under the Gaming Enactment of which 144 resulted in convictions. Thirty-one cases, in all of which convictions were obtained, were brought under the Weights and Measures Enactment.

97. Registration of vehicles was carried out by the Police, 2,433 motor vehicles and 1,017 other vehicles being registered. Decreases were shown in hired cars, buses and motor cycles, but were set off by an increase in private cars and lorries.

98. The number of dogs licensed and destroyed decreased by 1,070 and 3,435 respectively. Four dog-shooters and buriers were appointed during the year.

99. The number of fire-arms registered was 5,239 which was practically the same figure as in 1346.

100. Cases of fire numbered fifteen involving property estimated at $30,539. The Brigade was kept at full strength and the engine and accessories in good condition.

101. Towards the end of the year the framework of the force was reorganised by the abolition of the offices of Assistant Commissioners of Police, North and South, and the creation of three Police Circles at Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Kulim, each under an independent "Officer Superintending Police Circle" responsible directly to the Commissioner. The post of Adjutant was created at Alor Star for dealing with all matters of Drill and Musketry, Discipline, Recruits, the Sikh Contingent, etc.; and the title of Chief Detective Inspector was changed to Officer in Charge of Detectives.

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102. The total revenue collected amounted to $128,175, a decrease of $14,950 on the previous year, due to a reduction of $11,208 under the heading "Registration of Vehicles" and a loss of $3,493 consequent on the introduction of free cattle registration.

The total expenditure was $517,579 which represented a saving of $32,992 on the estimates. An excess of $17,203 on the figures for 1346 was chiefly due to the purchase of 250 rifles for the Kedah Volunteer Force.

103. Mr. W. E. Speers, who had spent 24 years in the Kedah Police and the last 8 years as Commissioner, retired on pension during the year, having given valuable service.

PRISONS.

104. There are three prisons in the State, at Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Kulim. Only short sentence prisoners are retained at Sungei Patani and Kulim, those with a sentence of over one year being transferred to Alor Star.

105. The daily average number of prisoners was 333 compared with 375 in 1346, 410 in 1345 and 441 in 1344.

106. The discipline and health both amongst Warders and prisoners was on the whole good. All prisoners on admission were thoroughly examined and were treated for hookworm and malaria, and vaccinated.

107. The prisoners throughout the State are employed on grass-cutting, vegetable gardening and various industries such as carpentry, bookbinding, basketry, etc. The revenue amounted to $18,336 as against $21,735 in the previous year: the fall being due to the ceasing of the sale of rice to Kulim Hospital and a falling off in the orders for stitching and articles of carpentry.

VAGRANTS CAMP.

108. The Vagrants Camp at Alor Star, which was opened at the beginning of the previous year, had an average population of 31.

109. Revenue and expenditure were $456 and $6,340 respectively as compared with $292 and $8,261 for the eleven months of 1346.

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110. The vagrants are employed in necessary work about the Camp and vegetable-gardening; the produce of the vegetable garden keeps the Camp and Prison well supplied with vegetables, and the surplus is sold to the public. Some filling and drainage work on the Camp area carried out by the vagrants themselves has resulted in a diminution in the number of flies and mosquitoes. Each vagrant is given a gratuity of five cents per diem. The general practice is that if a vagrant remains in the Camp for 12 months he is repatriated.

VII—PUBLIC WORKS.

111. The total expenditure for the year was $2,222,707 compared with $2,442,483 in the previous year and an estimate of $3,442,829.

112. The total number of Government buildings at the end of the year was 1,132 with an estimated value of $5,406,015. 93 buildings were added during the year. The cost of maintenance was $118,777.

113. $177,733 was spent on drainage and irrigation works. The Sungei Dulang Kechil, Sungei Sedeka, Sungei Limau and Sungei Daun irrigation schemes were practically completed, and considerable progress was made with a new canal through the swamp-forest (glam) and with the Alor Changileh-Sungei Jitra scheme.

114. Reconnaissance work was done in Kuala Muda, Mukim Tekai, Yen and Changloon.

115. Amongst buildings completed, the most important were the new Post Office, the new State Council Office and the new single cell block for the Prison at Alor Star, the new Public Offices at Sungei Patani and the new Human Quarantine Station at Padang Besar. The latter is the joint property of the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, Perlis and Kedah.

116. A large number of quarters for both senior and subordinate officers and cooly lines were also completed.

117. Progress was made with the new Istana, Anak Bukit Gardens, Alor Star, the Hostel at the Alor Star School and other works.

118. The Chief Hydraulic Engineer, Federated Malay States visited Kedah in May, 1929 for the purpose of advising as to the best method of improvement of the Alor Star water supply. In accordance with his recommendations, investigations are being carried out.

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119. The Sungei Patani service reservoir was lined with a reinforced concrete lining and a main laid to Gurun village.

120. The Baling water supply was completed and water turned on.

121. The rainfall return for the past three years at Alor Star, Sungei Patani and Kulim towns and their respective Head Works, water supply was as follows:—

Rainfall.	1347	1346	1345
Alor Star Town	76·89 ins.	97·81 ins.	97·87 ins.
Headworks, Water Supply, Bukit Wang	50·13 „	69·80 „	43·66 „
Sungei Patani Town ...	90·48 „	83·59 „	103·67 „
Headworks, Water Supply ...	117·53 „	104·37 „	146·70 „
Kulim Town	105·93 „	103.68 „	139·05 „
Headworks, Water Supply ...	90·70 „	97·02 „	108·97 „

122. The difference between the rainfall at Alor Star Town and Headworks is very noticeable.

123. Schemes for improving the Alor Star water supply are now under consideration. They include a scheme for pumping and purifying water from the river at Bukit Pinang about 8 miles from Alor Star.

124. No floods were recorded during the year, and prices of labour and material were more or less stable.

VIII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

125. The estimated population of Kedah according to races was Malays 279,000, Chinese 66,630, Indians 50,340, Europeans 400, Eurasians 160, other races 9,100—total 405,630.

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BIRTHS.

126. The total number of births registered during the year was 15,347 giving a birth rate of 37.83 per mille of population as compared with 13,066 births and a birth rate of 32.68 in 1346.

DEATHS.

127. The total number of deaths registered was 9,561 giving a death rate of 23.57 per mille—this is the lowest death rate recorded since 1343.

The distribution of deaths among the various races was as follows:—

	Deaths.	Death rate.
European	Nil	...
Eurasian	Nil	...
Malays	5,427	19·45
Chinese	1,920	28·80
Indians	2,008	39·89
Others	206	22·61

INFANT MORTALITY.

128. The rate was 127.91 which is the lowest recorded except in 1342 when the rate was 126.27. The highest rate is as usual among Tamils 262.96, but it shows a considerable improvement on the previous year with a rate of 406.34. The rate for Chinese is the same as in the previous year 136.72, while the rate for Malays is 111.95 against 128.46.

GENERAL HEALTH.

129. The health of the State generally has been good; and indication of this is given by the increased birth rate and decreased death rate. Malaria and "fever unspecified" accounted for the largest proportion of total deaths, but shewed an improvement on the two previous years, the figures for 1345, 1346 and 1347 being respectively 4,820, 4,283 and 3,328.

130. No cases of Cholera or Small-pox were recorded.

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131. One case of Tropical Typhus occurred in an Indian labourer on a South Kedah estate. As in the three cases which occurred in the previous year, the diagnosis was confirmed by serological tests carried out by the Medical Research Institute, Kuala Lumpur.

ANKYLOSTOMIASIS.

132. The deaths registered under this heading continue to be numerous—964 as compared with 1,154 in 1346. There seems to be little doubt that Malaria is a contributory cause in many of these cases. More serious attention is being paid to this disease, and it is hoped that the number of deaths will tend to decrease.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

133. There were 252 cases with 108 deaths as compared with 255 cases and 114 deaths in the previous year. 13 cases were treated in the Phthisis Ward at Langkawi, of which two were discharged as cured.

YAWS.

134. A total number of 9,641 injections was given as compared with 6,689 in the previous year. It is reported that many people fail to realise that one injection does not constitute a cure, and there are many relapses. Orders are issued through village head men and School teachers to send cases for treatment, but the disease still continues in many mukims to be treated lightly.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

135. 917 cases were treated in Hospital, and 2,577 injections of Neo-Salvarsan were given in treatment of syphilis.

LEPROSY.

136. There were 54 fresh cases admitted during the year: of these 44 were sent to the Straits Settlements Leper Settlement at Pulau Jerejak, one to the Federated Malay States Malay Leper Settlement at Pangkor Laut, and nine were in Kedah Hospitals awaiting transfer at the end of the year. The total remaining under treatment at the end of the year was 99 at Pulau Jerejak, nine at Pangkor Laut, exclusive of nine awaiting transfer. Sixteen deaths were recorded.

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ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT.

137. 102 cases were admitted for dog-bite: of these 50 were confirmed or suspected of being bitten by rabid dogs and received anti-rabic serum injections.

MENTAL DISEASES.

138. 172 Kedah patients were under treatment in Tanjong Rambutan Mental Hospital at the beginning of the year: 59 were admitted, 22 were discharged as cured, 12 absconded, 16 died and 181 remained at the end of the year.

INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

139. 40 Schools were visited by the Health Staff. This represents a total of 3,725 pupils of which 3,008 were examined. Hospital travelling dispensaries paid regular visits to 31 Schools.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

140. Hospitals were maintained at Alor Star, Sungei Patani, Kulim, Kuala Ketil, Serdang, Baling and Langkawi. The small hospital at Bandar Bharu was closed and the patients were transferred.

141. There were out-door Dispensaries at Alor Star, Jitra, Yen and Sik.

142. Motor Dispensaries were maintained in North, Central and South Kedah.

143. The number of inpatients treated in Kedah Hospitals was 19,121 with a death rate of 7.87 as compared with 24,432 treated and a death rate of 8.13 in the previous year.

VETERINARY.

144. Rabies was the only contagious disease detected in Kedah during the year, dogs being the only animals affected. Brains of suspected dogs were examined in thirty cases, of which nineteen were returned as positive and one suspicious. One dog also was diagnosed clinically as being affected with the disease. The muzzling order, which was in force during the year was to a great extent disregarded, and 8,308 dogs were destroyed by the Police: there were 121 prosecutions for breach of the order. Eighty three dogs and one cat were inoculated with anti-rabic vaccine, one dog dying after the inoculation.

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145. Registration of cattle was carried out in 1347 by the Penghulus under the new Enactment, instead of by the Police as formerly. The deaths of 8 buffaloes and 98 cattle were reported as against 85 and 260 respectively in 1346, which seems to point to the fact that Penghulus do not report deaths. It is possible that odd cases of contagious diseases escape notice in this way.

146. A census of animals made by the Department showed that there were 47,109 buffaloes, 52,968 cattle, 79 horses, 115 sheep, 30,118 goats and 48,380 swine in the State.

147. Inspection of animals for slaughter and of meat was carried out in the bigger centres, and a proportion found unfit for consumption rejected. Lectures on meat inspection were given to student Health Inspectors.

148. Importation and exportation of dogs was prohibited throughout the year, and importation of buffaloes, cattle, sheep and goats from Siam was only permitted through Padang Besar Quarantine Station or by special permit through the Bukit Kayu Hitam quarantine yards. Imports of buffaloes and cattle, excluding Padang Besar, were 116 and 144 as compared with 377 and 77 in the previous year. Export figures were 494 and 279 respectively as compared with 532 and 473 in the previous year. 11,970 swine were exported as against 14,532 in 1346.

149. The erection of new premises for the Department was started during the year.

150. A certain amount of research work on the common round-worm parasites was done, but the work is still in its early stages.

151. Revenue and expenditure (excluding Padang Besar) were $1,875 and $27,546 respectively.

152. The Padang Besar Quarantine Station, on the Perlis-Siam frontier, which is the the joint property of the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, Perlis and Kedah Governments is administered by this Department under the general guidance of an advisory committee consisting of the State Veterinary Surgeon and the Government Veterinary Surgeons, Penang and South Perak. 2,234 buffaloes, 284 cattle, 52 goats and 60,886 swine passed through the station during the year. One outbreak of surra was detected involving three buffaloes, all of which died.

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153. Revenue and expenditure were $7,206 and $4,735 respectively as compared with $7,963 and $6,217 in 1346. New quarantine sheds are in course of erection.

IX—EDUCATION.

154. Two English Schools for boys were maintained at Alor Star and Sungei Patani. At Alor Star the total number of pupils increased from 521 at the beginning of the year to 584 at the end of the year, and Malay pupils increased from 312 to 349; at Sungei Patani there were 170 names on the roll at the beginning of the year and 194 at the end of the year, the number of Malays increased from 51 to 58. The demand for English education shows no abatement, and there is a fairly considerable waiting list for admittance to the Schools. The Malay pupils for the most part pass Standard IV in the Vernacular Schools before entering the English Schools, but a few of them enter the Primary Class. Pupils of other nationalities enter the Primary Class. Government scholars, who are picked by means of an annual examination from candidates sent up by the Vernacular Schools and receive free education and a monthly subsistence allowance, numbered 35: there were also 6 foundation scholars, one compassionate scholar, and 66 free scholars. The remainder paid school fees.

155. In the Cambridge examinations the best results so far obtained in Kedah were recorded. Ten out of the fourteen School Certificate candidates secured certificates, three of them being Malays. In the Junior Cambridge examination 27 certificates were obtained with an entry of 38 candidates, 18 of the successful candidates were Malays.

156. The Boy Scouts made steady progress in scout work. 200 of them went into Camp at Kulim for a few days. They made themselves useful at all public functions when called upon and presented a smart appearance at parades held for His Majesty the King's Birthday, His Highness the Sultan's Birthday and Empire Day.

157. A pack of Wolf Cubs was organised at the Alor Star School by one of the masters.

158. The Alor Star School had a good record in athletics. In inter-school football matches with Penang and Perak Schools, the School won twice and drew twice. The School XI won the shield in the Kedah Football League.

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159. A fund of $6,000, of which 40 per cent was contributed by members of the Education Department, was collected for the building of a Stuart Memorial Library at the Alor Star School. The Government has contributed $6,000, and the plan of the building has been passed.

160. The Malay Girls' School, Kampong Bharu, which was opened in 1924 with a view to providing education for the daughters of Malays of good family, was in charge of an English teacher assisted by two Malay teachers. The curriculum included Malay, elementary English, and in addition handwork, folk-dancing and the singing of simple airs. There were 32 pupils at the end of the year of various ages from seven upwards. This School is steadily developing the tastes and intellects of the pupils on sound lines, and is at the same time popularising the idea of education for girls in Kedah.

VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

161. Vernacular Schools numbered 78 at the end of the year including three Girls' Schools, as against 76 at the end of the previous year. Several applications were received from the peasants in different districts for permission to build a school themselves, provided that Government should supply furniture and staff. The Government agreed to the principle that where such permission is given the villagers should maintain the building for a period of three years, and that then, if the school justifies itself, Government should supply a building.

162. Several requests were received for the opening of Girls' Schools. It has been decided to open Schools at Sungei Patani and Kulim in 1348. In accordance with the wishes of the Education Board, girls are no longer admitted to Boys' Schools in Kedah.

163. Good progress was made in handwork at the Boys' Schools. Carpentry was taught by local craftsmen in 10 Schools, and the boys made tables, chairs and desks for use in various Schools. Basketry was taught in 21 Schools. Some difficulty was found in getting sales for the basketry. 70 per cent of the Boys' Schools have gardens, and excellent work has been done by the boys.

164. In the Girls' Schools sewing was taught, and in one School artificial flower making.

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165. The following table shows the number of boys examined in each Standard in the past four years:—

Year.	Schools.	Std. I.	Std. II.	Std. III.	Std. IV.	Total.
1344	68	1,562	1,243	961	1,030	4,796
1345	68	1,418	1,354	991	1,154	4,917
1346	69	1,525	1,287	1,070	1,266	5,148
1347	74	2,014	1,300	1,083	1,443	5,840

X—LAND AND SURVEY.

166. The revenue for the year 1347 was $1,111,912 as compared with $1,105,670 in 1346, and an estimate of $1,126,800. Comparative figures under the various main heads are given below:—

Heads.	Actual 1346.	Actual 1347.	Estimated 1347.
Premium	253,804	261,330	281,500
Land Tax & Rent	670,214	679,376	676,600
Commission	80,788	67,824	70,150
Registration Fees	21,632	20,904	24,150
Survey Fees	34,878	33,456	37,050
Boundary Marks	4,140	4,096	3,830
Miscellaneous	40,211	44,926	37,350
TOTAL ...	1,105,670	1,111,912	1,130,630

167. The total on the rent rolls at the close of the year was $710,254, if entries due to cancellation of incomplete titles are disregarded. Remissions of rent (under exemptions) amounted to $22,284. Of the balance of $687,970 a total of $679,376 was collected, $7,965 was written off on cancelled titles, and arrears totalled $644, while excesses were found amounting to $14.

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168. The figures showing the progress in alienation of land are as under:—

Applications over 50 relongs (35 1/2 acres.)

	Number	Acres
Carried forward from 1346	2	885
Received in 1346	14	3,801
TOTAL	16	4,686
Approved in 1347	3	348
Refused in 1347...	2	117
Remaining at end of 1347	11	4,221

Applications not exceeding 50 relongs (35 1/2 acres.)

	Number	Acres
Carried forward from 1346	9,344	38,013
Received in 1347	7,648	33,234
TOTAL	16,992	71,247
Approved in 1347	3,953	13,965
Refused in 1347	2,023	7,929
Remaining	11,016	49,353

169. Applications for small areas are still pouring in, and the Land Offices are falling into arrears. It is hoped, however, to quicken up the routine work of dealing with applications by further decentralisation, by increasing the efficiency of the inspecting staff and appointing Tracers in Land Offices, and by only accepting applications for land from persons who have the necessary money for payment of fees.

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170. The area alienated in the State, exclusive of land held under mining title, is as follows:—

Nature of Title	Number	Acres
Final Grants	41,457	372,892
Old Grants	3,274	22,327
Provisional Grants	44,706	204,493
Permits	2,002	7,297
Banchi Sewa (Lots shown on Record of Occupation)	16,656	22,534
Surat Akuan (Approved applications) ...	17,912	56,773
TOTAL, 1347 ...	126,007	686,316
TOTAL, 1346 ...	122,811	644,028

171. The progress of registration work is shown in the following table:—

Final Grants (Surat Putus) awaiting engrossment on 1.1.47	1,792
Final Grants received from Survey Office in 1347	6,020
Final Grants engrossed and registered in 1347..	4,157
Final Grants engrossed but not registered in 1347	1,444
Final Grants returned to Survey Office	43
Final Grants awaiting engrossment at the end of the year	1,979

While there were also 189 Final Grants for State land, etc.

172. Registration of dealings was as follows:—

	Number in 1347	Consideration	Commission
		$ c.	$ c.
Transfers for value ...	4,243	6,847,612 70	44,946 00
Transfers by gift ...	884	138,155 00	1,159 00
Charges	3,997	4,677,045 00	21,720 00
Miscellaneous Documents.	2,227	...	...

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About one and a quarter million dollars represents the value of amalgamated properties: only nominal fees were paid on these transfers.

173. The total amount for which charges were registered in 1346 was $6,951,797 and in 1347 $4,677,045.

174. Good progress is reported in settlement work.

175. The withdrawal of Rubber Restriction has eased matters in Land Offices, and has made it possible for Land Officers to do some inspection work.

176. A new Land Code is in course of preparation, and it is hoped that it will be brought into force during 1349.

SURVEYS.

177. The total expenditure of the Survey Department was $385,681, of which $41,267 was spent on Topographical work as compared with a total of $400,128 in the previous year of which $57,571 was spent on Topographical work.

178. Revenue collections amounted to $9,527.02. Survey fees on agricultural land are included in premium. Survey fees at schedule rates (or in cases of sub-division at cost) for work completed during the year amounted to $175,722 as against $180,823 in 1346.

179. The staff consisted of a Superintendent and four Assistant Superintendents, one European Surveyor, 46 subordinate field staff, 5 surveyors under training and an office staff of 120.

180. 132,688 chains (1,659 miles) were measured by Theodolite Survey at a cost of 82 cents a chain—this total includes 6,971 original lots covering 64,399 acres and 396 sub-divisions. 128,535 chains (1,607 miles) were measured by demarcation at a cost of 30 cents a chain: this total comprises 5,228 lots covering 17,405 acres.

181. 4,804 final grants were forwarded to the Land Office and 1,019 provisional titles. Settlement tracings for 5,319 lots were prepared and forwarded to the Land Office.

182. Classes were held in the Head Office during the year for Computers and Draftsmen. The examination results were very poor.

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183. Mr. W. J. C. Stevens, who had spent 11 years in the Kedah Survey Department and his last six years as Superintendent, retired on pension towards the close of the year.

XI—LABOUR.

184. During 1347, 4,582 assisted Indian immigrants arrived in Kedah, 2,709 adult males, 1,163 adult females and 710 minors. The totals for 1346 were 7,857 adults and 1,745 minors, and for 1345, 18,376 adults and 3,769 minors.

185. The total number of labourers employed in Kedah as on 30th June 1929 (22nd Muharram 1348) was 49,436, an increase over the previous year of 1,822. The numbers according to races were Southern Indians 34,436, Malays and Javanese 9,922, Chinese 5,739 and others 339. Southern Indians increased by 27, Malays and Javanese by 2,112 and other races by 206, whilst Chinese decreased by 523.

186. The minimum wages paid by Government Departments were 50 cents for men and 40 cents for women. These rates have been adopted by nearly all the large estates. Licences to recruit have been refused to estates not offering these rates.

187. There was practically no change in the cost of living during the year. Most estates obtain their own rice and supply their labourers at a uniform price—from 42 cents to 45 cents a gantang (gallon).

188. There were 115 estate and 31 village toddy shops open during the year.

189. The death rate was 12.57 per mille as compared with 17.78 in the previous year. Amongst Indian labourers the rates were 17.08 and 22.48 respectively.

190. The Estates Health Board Enactment was considerably amended during the year, and good progress has been made with schemes for the provision of group hospitals and the services of Medical Practitioners. The Board's duties have been lightened by the hearty co-operation of the majority of the larger estate owners and managers. The Protector of Labour is Chairman and temporarily Administrator of the Board.

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191. 389 complaints, mostly trivial, were registered during the year as against 207 last year. The majority were settled departmentally. Sixteen civil suits on behalf of labourers were instituted by the Department for recovery of wages due. Five prosecutions were brought for infringement of the Labour Laws. Twenty orders were issued under the Labour Code.

192. 284 visits and 82 special visits were made by the Protector of Labour and the Labour Inspector.

193. There were 70 Tamil and one Telugu Vernacular Schools on estates compared with 61 last year.

194. All labour in Kedah is free, labourers arrive in the State free of debt and are all at liberty to leave their employment at any time on giving a month's notice.

195. The expenditure of the Department was $19,165.

CHINESE PROTECTORATE.

196. Nine societies were registered and eleven exempted from registration during the year. Three societies were struck off the Register as having ceased to exist.

197. There was one prosecution during the year under the Societies Enactment, resulting in the conviction of nineteen Chinese on the charge of acting as members of an unlawful (Triad) society. Sixteen of these were banished on the expiration of their sentences. No other trouble was given by secret societies.

198. Enquiries numbering 248 were undertaken by the Department as follows:—

(*a*)	Enquiries under the Women and Girls' Protection Enactment	12
(*b*)	Complaints regarding domestic matters, maintenance, custody of children, etc. ..	90
(*c*)	Complaints regarding labourers' wages	72
(*d*)	Miscellaneous	74
		248

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199. Four women and girls were admitted to the Home on suspicion of having been brought into the State for the purpose of prostitution. Three were detained, and one put on Security Bond. Subsequently two were repatriated to China and two married.

200. Twenty nine women and girls were admitted to the Home in all. Two remained at the end of the year, and one is being maintained in the Penang Po Leung Kuk.

201. The enquiries regarding labourers' wages represented claims by 277 labourers for a total sum of $12,462.19. Of this sum $7,046.28 was recovered with the assistance of the Department, and 16 claims amounting to $3,900.38 were sent to Court for enforcement of the orders. The balance of $1,515.53 represents claims dismissed or irrecoverable.

202. The Registration of Schools Enactment (No. 4 of 1347) was passed during the year, the Protector being appointed Registrar.

203. The Protector was also appointed Administrator of four Chinese estates and Receiver of one Insolvent estate.

204. The decrepits in the Sungei Patani hospital and Alor Star Vagrants Camp were visited regularly. A number of decrepits from Sungei Patani were repatriated, thanks to the generous assistance of local Chinese traders.

XII—MISCELLANEOUS.

SANITARY BOARDS.

205. The three main Sanitary Boards in Kedah are the Kota Star, Kuala Muda and Kulim District Boards, each of which has jurisdiction over several outlying village areas. There are also smaller Boards in the other districts. All the Boards have unofficial representation.

206. The revenue of the Kota Star, Kuala Muda and Kulim Boards was $64,556, $57,628 and $41,289 respectively compared with $62,019, $57,827 and $35,579 in 1346.

207. The corresponding figures for expenditure were $56,244, $32,370 and $29,355 for 1347 against $61,794, $35,722 and $31,533 for 1346. Reduction in expenditure is due to removal of clerical salaries from Sanitary Board expenditure.

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208. Owing to trade depression, there was in general very little progress in building of new shop-houses, but in Alor Star, Baling and Kulim a few new shop-houses were built or were in process of being built. A scheme was considered for improvement of Kuala Ketil Village, and development of the area near the present brick houses. Some preliminary work was done on the development schemes for the old town of Alor Star.

209. Some progress was made in extending Sanitary Board control to certain small villages on the roadsides. Owing to a readjustment of district boundaries between Kulim and Baling districts, the village of Merbau Pulas was handed over to Kulim Sanitary Board.

210. Water supplies to Gurun, Kota Sarang Semut and Simpang Ampat Kangkong were completed during the year, the two latter in particular being of great benefit. Previously in the dry season water was carted to these places.

211. Investigations with a view to the improvement of the Alor Star water supply, which is at present inadequate, have been going on for some time, and it is hoped that a satisfactory scheme will be evolved.

212. The Government approved the principle of the installation of petrol pumps, and a number were installed in various places following on the necessary amendment to the Petroleum Enactment to allow of bulk storage, which was passed late in 1346.

213. During the year the old appointments of Sub-Sanitary Inspectors were abolished, their places being taken by Probationer Health Inspectors with a higher standard of education. The probationers are first attached to the Health Office at Sungei Patani and then sent to Alor Star for a period of practical training. One Inspector was sent to Singapore to take the Royal Sanitary Institute Course.

214. In Alor Star, the Veterinary Department gave instructions in the detection of diseased meat etc.

215. Town planning schemes were drawn up and approved for several areas, and a number of notices issued for the destruction of dilapidated and insanitary premises. Incinerators were erected at some of the smaller places.

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CO-OPERATION.

216. The total of registered societies was seventeen rural credit societies and one Thrift and Loan Society, and in addition there were eight rural credit societies and six Thrift and Loan Societies for which registration was not approved. This shows no advance in numbers on the previous year, the policy being not to form new societies, but to consolidate those already formed. Many applications were received for permission to form new societies but were refused.

217. The accounts were audited up to the end of the first half year 1347, which roughly corresponds with the end of 1928—generally speaking they were found to be carefully and neatly kept.

218. The registered societies shewed a total of 1,125 members, a subscribed capital of $18,528, total of loans granted during the twelve months $75,033, amount of such loans repaid $48,955 and $1,947 of instalments overdue. The most noticeable point about these figures is the singular rapidity with which the money circulates among the members. The figure for outstandings is not excessive in view of the fact that the accounts were audited before the padi harvests.

219. The Assistant Director of Co-operation inspected all the registered and most of the unregistered societies in the State. Visits were also paid by the Director and Mr. C. F. Strickland, formerly of the Punjab Co-operation Department, in connection with the latter's study of co-operation in Malaya.

220. The staff consisted of a Registrar and an Assistant Registrar, both of whom are members of the Kedah Civil Service.

STATE COUNCIL AND LEGISLATION.

221. Forty-six meetings of the State Council were held during the year at which, in addition to the ordinary work of administration, the following Enactments were passed:—

1. The Sanitary Board (Amendment) Enactment.
2. The Silt (Control) Enactment.
3. The Town Planning Enactment.
4. The Registration of Schools Enactment.
5. The Mining Enactment.

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6. The Petition Writers Enactment.
7. The Foreign Companies Enactment.
8. The Chandu Enactment.
9. The Stamp Enactment.
10. The Export of Rubber (Restriction) Enactment 1341, Repeal Enactment.
11. The Health Board (Amendment) Enactment.
12. The Rubber Supervision (Amendment) Enactment.
13. The Evidence Enactment.
14. The Revenue Vessels Enactment.
15. The Reformatory Schools Enactment.
16. The Public Holidays Enactment.

Of the above Enactments, all came into force during the year except Nos. 7, 9, 13 and 16.

222. Rules, regulations etc. under the following Enactments were passed:—

The Customs Enactment, 1343.
The Mining Enactment, 1347.
The Rubber Supervision Enactment, 1346.
The Waters Enactment, 1343.
The Chandu Enactment, 1347.
The Registration of Vessels Enactment, 1330.
The Burials Enactment, 1346.
The Health Board Enactment, 1346.
The Foreign Companies Enactment, 1347.
The Motor Cars Enactment, 1343.
The Petroleum Enactment, 1337.
The Forest Enactment, 1345.
The Sanitary Boards Enactment, 1334.
The Courts Enactment, 1339.
The Petition Writers Enactment, 1347.
The Registration of Schools Enactment, 1347.
The Coconut Trees Preservation Enactment, 1333.
The Padi Planting Enactment, 1335.
The Excise Enactment, 1344.
The Extradition Enactment, 1334.
The Town Planning Enactment, 1347.

PRINTING.

223. The Government Printing Office received additional machinery during the year, and was able to deal with a larger volume of work than previously. The Government Stationery Department is conducted by the Superintendent.

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GENERAL.

224. On 9th May, 1929 (29th Zulkaedah), a total eclipse of the Sun took place. Along the central line which passed East-North-East through Jitra, 11 miles north of Alor Star, the eclipse was total for five minutes whilst at Alor Star it was total from 1 hour 34 minutes 48 seconds till 1 hour, 39 minutes, 42 seconds. The British Eclipse Expedition established an observing station on a site adjoining the Adviser's residence, and the Harvard (U.S.A.) Eclipse Expedition observed from this Station. A Japanese Expedition observed from Paya Kamunting Estate, Jitra.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, Sir Hugh Clifford, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., and Lady Clifford made a special visit to Alor Star to witness the eclipse.

The weather conditions were not sufficiently favourable to enable the astronomers to obtain the scientific results for which they were seeking, but the eclipse afforded a spectacle of surpassing grandeur for the onlookers.

225. His Highness Tunku Ibrahim returned from Europe to Kedah in the first week of November, and resumed his duties as Regent and President of the State Council.

226. On 18th April His Highness the Regent visited Penang and was granted an interview with His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester who was passing through on his way to Japan.

227. The thanks of the Kedah Government are due to all Unofficials who have helped Government as members of the various Boards and Committees throughout the State.

228. Mr. H. C. Eckhardt continued to act as British Adviser till 12th July 1928 (23.1.47) when Mr. T. W. Clayton, the holder of the substantive appointment, returned to duty.

T. W. CLAYTON,
British Adviser, Kedah.

Alor Star, 16th November, 1929.

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APPENDIX A.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 29th Zulhijjah, 1347 (8th June, 1929).

Liabilities.	$	Assets.	$
Deposits	720,295.72	Cash	534,314.79
Opium Revenue Replacement Fund ...	4,939,556.25	Advances	22,119.91
Investments Depreciation Reserve ...	130,000.00	Cash-in-transit	24,272.09
Excess of Assets over Liabilities ...	5,915,375.25	Imprests	23,045.00
		Investments	10,880,212.98
		Loans	34,476.72
		Suspense Account	186,785.73
TOTAL ...	11,705,227.22	TOTAL ...	11,705,227.22

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APPENDIX B.

Statement of Revenue for each year from A.H. 1343 to 1347 (A.D. 1925 to 1929).

Heads of Revenue.	A. H. 1343 (A. D. 1925)	A. H 1344 (A. D. 1926)	A. H. 1345 (A. D. 1927)	A. H. 1346 (A. D. 1928)	A. H. 1347 (A. D. 1929)
	$	$	$	$	$
1. Marine	23,696	28,157	31,679	32,719	37,979
2. Customs	1,716,006	3,787,061	3,279,108	2,604,423	2,058,146
3. Opium Monopoly	1,993,843	2,441,088	2,632,863	2,156,255	1,877,561
4. Farms and Licences	280,139	356,400	432,541	467,096	453,356
5. Court Fees etc....	160,330	168,419	158,255	212,432	142,456
6. Police	29,943	30,543	27,800	24,889	19,286
7. Education	11,366	12,242	12,042	14,608	15,626
8. Veterinary	1,556	3,860	4,008	4,207	9,081
9. Reimbursements	56,397	76,388	155,342	144,101	181,443
10. Posts and Telegraphs	74,023	103,520	151,607	126,071	128,099
11. Lands	832,014	972,802	857,322	847,725	846,486
12. Forests	65,738	102,586	135,614	118,078	104,383
13. Mines	7,160	9,977	6,796	4,898	5,861
14. Interest	248,265	359,672	291,076	371,765	384,549
15. Sanitary Boards	197,118	249,930	282,915	280,136	278,118
16. Miscellaneous	34,932	61,063	82,829	57,825	81,403
17. Land Sales	237,622	415,779	446,722	255,279	262,743
Total ...	5,970,148	9,179,487	8,988,429	7,722,507	6,886,576

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Heads of Service.	A. H. 1343 (A. D. 1925)	A. H. 1344 (A. D. 1926)	A. H. 1345 (A. D. 1927)	A. H. 1346 (A. D. 1928)	A. H. 1347 (A. D. 1929)
	$	$	$	$	$
1. Charges on account of the Public Debt ...	29,371	...	...	...	...
2. Ruling House Allowances, Pensions, etc. ...	265,698	256,103	288,127	360,146	326,113
3. H. H. The Sultan's Office	139,176	139,816	139,898	143,545	144,556
4. State Council	135,800	130,312	139,807	139,345	119,858
5. Agricultural	12,951	15,746	17,321	18,754	18,499
6. Audit	52,665	50,754	49,935	50,409	31,269
7. Chinese Protectorate	16,848	15,845	17,757	17,901	17,250
8. Clerical Service	...	...	...	...	556,222
9. Co-Operative Societies Department ...	...	...	...	9,653	8,831
10. Courts	146,729	154,155	156,600	161,813	144,640
11. District Offices	179,848	182,404	186,846	194,427	146,117
12. Education	253,592	282,524	304,364	336,305	358,540
13. Forests	57,292	53,922	62,083	59,071	47,651
14. Labour	14,046	16,695	21,784	17,484	15,318
15. Lands	261,368	263,869	277,225	280,206	198,643
16. Marine	34,655	29,130	34,637	34,751	29,286
17. Medical and Health	312,678	348,372	389,020	438,949	490,646
18. Mines	9,891	9,610	8,853	8,953	6,958
19. Miscellaneous	346,703	275,003	371,608	686,706	749,857
20. Monopolies and Customs	165,551	181,532	215,081	225,822	144,569
21. Mosques	9,747	8,771	9,515	9,748	9,975
22. Police	473,937	464,471	482,842	500,376	492,085
23. Posts and Telegraphs	131,014	150,406	163,606	366,229	213,233
24. Printing	...	61,859	61,698	60,685	76,404
25. Prisons and Vagrants' Camp	105,545	101,360	123,756	121,512	103,698
26. Sanitary Boards	123,631	122,458	139,030	148,533	136,215
27. Surveys	338,682	344,358	406,998	400,128	370,232
28. Treasury	41,665	41,036	42,921	46,007	15,695
29. Veterinary	27,336	29,301	30,124	35,927	32,281
30. Public Works Department	256,405	238,800	456,261	358,377	380,245
31. Public Works Recurrent	699,356	745,202	852,897	831,761	823,556
32. Public Works Extraordinary	1,004,718	767,404	938,427	1,271,815	1,036,649
TOTAL	5,671,697	5,481,218	6,396,507	7,335,338	7,245,091

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APPENDIX D.

List of Securities.

	SECURITY.	Actual Cost.	Latest Market Price.	Market Value.	Redemption Value.
		$		$	$
1.	4½% Singapore Municipal Loan, 1947	71,863	100	84,545	84,545
2.	4% Singapore Municipal Loan, 1963	314,475	95	398,335	419,300
3.	S.S. & F.M.S. Victory Loan, 1934	2,296,824	106	2,443,300	2,305,000
4.	Chartered Bank (London) 4½% Fixed Deposits, Compound Interest	2,904,676	...	2,904,676	2,904,676
5.	British 3% Conversion Loan, 1961	964,687	76½	983,571	1,285,714
6.	New Zealand 4½% Inscribed Stock, 1945	1,670,059	96	1,645,728	1,714,300
7.	West Australia 5% Inscribed Stock, 1975	429,795	99	424,529	428,571
8.	British 4½% Conversion Loan, 1944	844,236	96	822,856	857,142
9.	Kenya 4½% Scrip, 1950	328,509	95	325,714	343,857
10.	London County 4½% Scrip, 1945/85	328,294	95	325,714	343,857
11.	Nigeria 4% Stock, 1963	156,442	85	150,447	176,997
12.	New South Wales, 4% Stock, 1932	120,086	94	120,857	128,571
13.	Queensland 3½% Stock, 1930	59,913	98	60,764	62,004
14.	South Australia 4% Stock, 1917/86	31,588	90½	31,029	34,286
15.	Treasury Bonds, 4½% 1930/34	358,766	98¾	354,500	358,988
		10,880,213			11,447,808

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APPENDIX E.

Statistics of the Posts and Telegraphs Department, Kedah.

Year.		Approximate number of articles passing through the post (Registers and Parcels excluded)	Number of Registered Articles.		Number of Parcels.		Number of Insured Articles (Parcels and Letters.)			
			Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Despatched.	Received.	Value.	Despatched.	Value.
A. H.	A. D.							$ c.		$ c.
1343	1925	2,295,735	47,546	49,417	13,092	4,753	509	51,994 70	331	32,555 78
1344	1926	2,540,642	52,920	52,693	14,744	5,088	660	59,588 39	412	40,606 95
1345	1927	3,184,974	62,651	59,140	16,833	5,889	774	80,183 82	511	57,253 43
1346	1928	3,276,169	65,117	65,494	17,072	5,707	743	58,562 41	512	54,788 21
1347	1929	3,605,290	67,065	64,714	17,652	5,512	815	63,104 62	674	62,285 97

Year.		Amount of Money Order and Postal Order Transactions.	Revenue.	Expenditure.			Approximate Number of Telegrams.			Telegraph and Telephone Lines.		
				Personal Emoluments.	Annually Recurrent.	Special Expenditure.	Received.	Despatched.	Transmitted.	Line Mileage	Wire Mileage.	Number of Telephones.
A. H.	A. D.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.						
1343	1925	392,613 25	74,023 34	105,211 95	22,264 17	3,537 95	49,751	39,936	52,468	440	1,610	469
1344	1926	535,789 06	103,520 59	109,839 26	19,827 20	20,685 02	55,991	44,551	58,903	460	1,700	517
1345	1927	720,549 61	151,606 54	113,131 47	20,117 44	30,337 76	52,715	43,524	52,559	490	1,810	555
1346	1928	747,706 51	126,071 25	117,636 99	20,539 39	228,125 92	48,126	44,421	42,952	510	1,930	561
1347	1929	690,950 06	*128,098 78	× 74,713 15	23,145 05	+ 115,362 58	54,340	52,650	67,288	515	1,960	593

* Excludes $8,534.36 as Revenue debit and $6,688.85 as Police Revenue.

× Does not include $60,133.99 being Personal Emoluments of the Clerical Service.

\+ Rebuilding Trunk Telephones alone amounted to $99,880.86.

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APPENDIX F.

Savings Bank Transactions for the years 1346 and 1347.

Year.	Total number of accounts.	Amount.	Interest due.	Number of accounts closed.	Number of accounts remaining open.	Amount standing to the credit of depositors.	Average amount to the credit of each depositor.
		$	$			$	$
1347 ...	1,403	134,576.05	1,790.13	481	922	76,851.97	83.25
1346 ...	1,104	118,622.88	1,405.78	388	716	57,306.47	80.94
Increase ...	299	15,953.17	384.35	93	206	19,545.50	3.21
Decrease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

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Return of cases tried in the Courts during the year 1347.

	CRIMINAL CASES.				CIVIL CASES.				CRIMINAL APPEALS.				CIVIL APPEALS.			
HIGH COURT.	No. of Cases from 1346	No. of Cases instituted.	No. of Cases disposed of	No. of Cases pending at end of 1347	No. of Cases from 1346	No. of Cases instituted	No. of Cases disposed of	No. of Cases pending at end of 1347	No. of Appeals from 1346	No. of Appeals in 1347	No. of Appeals disposed of	No. of Appeals pending at end of 1347	No. of Appeals from 1346	No. of Appeals in 1347	No. of Appeals disposed of	No. of Appeals pending at end of 1347
First Division... ...	...	14	11	3	1	2	1	2	9	25	32	2	6	87	70	23
Second Division ...	9	75	79	5	86	452	476	62	5	65	68	2	20	125	132	13
MAGISTRATES' COURTS.																
Alor Star	14	1242	1234	22	113	982	986	109								
Kota Sarang Semut ...	1	201	199	3	8	39	39	8								
Langgar	11	156	160	7	2	43	44	1								
Pendang	4	149	80	73	14	35	43	6								
DISTRICT AND POLICE COURTS.																
Kubang Pasu	9	933	938	4	7	304	304	7								
Padang Trap	7	183	178	12	3	36	33	6								
Langkawi	3	96	98	1	7	64	67	4								
Yen	...	177	172	5	6	89	82	13								
Kota Kuala Muda ...	4	56	58	2	4	32	30	6								
Semiling	...	18	17	1	3	1	2	2								
Sungei Patani ...	51	818	835	34	79	511	501	89								
Gurun	...	146	140	6	3	12	15	...								
Baling	18	233	245	6	11	77	85	3								
Kuala Ketil	5	201	202	4	4	35	38	1								
Sik	4	71	71	4	6	22	22	6								
Kulim	43	748	780	11	33	502	484	51								
Padang Serai ...	...	102	98	4	3	57	58	2								
Bandar Bharu ...	19	215	225	9	10	99	91	18								
Serdang	...	19	15	4	...	9	9	...								
TOTAL ...	202	5853	5835	220	403	3403	3410	396	14	90	100	4	26	212	202	36

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STATE OF PERLIS,

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STATE OF PERLIS.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR A.H. 1347 (20TH JUNE, 1928 TO 8TH JUNE, 1929).

PREFATORY NOTE

GEOGRAPHICAL.

Perlis is a small State, about 316 square miles in area lying between the 6th and 7th parallels of latitude on the West Coast of the Malay Peninsula. The coast line which runs north-west and south-east is approximately 13 miles in length. On the west the State is bounded by a range of mountains running north and south which separate it from the Siamese Province of Setul.

On the east the boundary is with the Siamese Province of Nakon Sridhammaraj and the Malay State of Kedah. On the south it is bounded by the State of Kedah. Padang Besar on the main trunk line to Bangkok is the frontier railway station between Siam and Malaya.

The coastal plain, which is suitable for rice growing, extends inland for a distance of about 14 miles. A striking feature of the landscape are the isolated limestone hills which rise abruptly from the plain.

The Perlis River is the only river of any size in the State and this is navigable by small craft as far as the town of Kangar.

HISTORICAL.

Perlis was made a separate State by the Siamese in about 1841 A.D. when an Arab named Syed Hussin, whose father, Syed Harun, had previously acquired the status of a local chief, was made Raja.

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The present Raja, Syed Alwi bin Almerhum Syed Safi, is the fourth who held that position under the suzerainty of Siam. A European Adviser was appointed from Bangkok in 1905 at the request of the Raja to aid him in putting the State's finances in order and remained until 15th July 1909,when in consequence of a treaty concluded between Great Britain and Siam, whereby the suzerainty of Siam was exchanged for that of Great Britain, the duties were handed over to a British Adviser.

Mr. Meadows Frost, Malayan Civil Service, was the first to act in the new appointment.

CLIMATE.

The State is subject to the influence of both the North-East Monsoon, lasting from November to March, and the South-West Monsoon, between July and September.

The average annual rainfall at Kangar is about 80 inches. The highest recorded annual rainfall was 106.3 inches in 1913 and the lowest 65.6 inches in 1926.

The shade temperature at Kangar varies between a mean maximum of about 89° and a mean minimum of 73°. It occasionally rises to 96° and has been known to fall to 64°.

About the end of December and the beginning of January the climate can be delightfully cool and pleasant.

POPULATION.

The population at the Census of 1921, was 40,087 including 34,165 Malays, 3,602 Chinese, 811 Indians and 1,344 Siamese. The population is now estimated to be about 45,000 of whom some 40,000 are Malays. There are 6 Europeans living in the State.

LANGUAGE.

The Language of the country is Malay, and the Official language is written in the Arabic script. A number of the Malay words used are peculiar to Perlis and the neighbouring State of Kedah.

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CURRENCY.

The currency is that of the Straits Settlements. The unit is the silver dollar which is divided into 100 cents. The value of the dollar is fixed at 2*s*. 4*d*.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Malay, English and Chinese weights and measures are used.

One pikul (100 katis)	=	133½ lbs.
One kati	=	16 tahils.
One kuncha (10 naleh)	=	160 gantangs.
One gantang	=	One gallon.
One relong	=	.711 acre.

I—GENERAL.

Early in the year under review the State, which had been enjoying a considerable measure of prosperity for two or three years previously, began to feel the effects of the general trade depression already evident elsewhere in the Malay Peninsula.

In addition the padi harvests of 1346 and 1347 were both poor so that it is not surprising that the total revenue for 1347 was considerably lower than the record amount collected in the previous year.

In spite however of unfavourable conditions during the year, the revenue and expenditure (including a loan repayment of $50,000) almost balanced.

II—FINANCE.

The Revenue for the year 1347 amounted to $583,329 as compared with $645,114 and an estimate of $595,200.

The decrease of $61,785 compared with the previous year is mainly accounted for under the headings of Chandu, Customs and Land.

The Expenditure for the year amounted to $584,085 as against an estimate of $594,579. The expenditure for 1346 was $622,928.

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There was a small deficit of $756 on the year's working.

The Revenue and Expenditure during the past 5 years is shown below:—

A.H.	Revenue	Expenditure
	$	$
1343	470,616	441,825
1344	594,098	565,071
1345	614,665	630,768
1346	645,114	622,928
1347	583,329	584,085

The Revenue in 1327 (1909), the first year of British Administration, was $102,552.

Details of the revenue and expenditure for the last three years are given in Appendices A and B.

The expenditure each year has included a sum of $50,000 paid in reduction of the debt to the Government of the Federated Malay States. At the end of the year the debt stood at $50,000. It has since been repaid in full so that at the time of writing there is no Public Debt.

A Comparative Statement of Expenditure for the years A.H. 1345, 1346 and 1347 is appended below:—

Heads of Expenditure	1345	1346	1347
	$	$	$
Ruling House Allowances and Pensions	16,353	16,110	18,036
Personal Emoluments	200,988	216,043	230,795
Other Charges Annually Recurrent...	169,716	199,864	198,783
Special Expenditure (other than Public Works and Repayment of Loan)	29,846	32,789	46,288
Public Works Special Services ...	163,865	108,122	40,183
Repayment of Loan	50,000	50,000	50,000
TOTAL ...	630,768	622,928	584,085

The higher expenditure during the years 1345 and 1346 was largely due to the installation of the water supply for Kangar and Arau.

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The surplus of Assets over Liabilities at the end of the year amounted to $426,802.

A Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the two years 1346 and 1347 is given in Appendix C.

Investments amounting to $295,000, which consist of Straits Settlements Government securities and Singapore Municipal Debentures are entered at face value

The Adviser performed the duties of State Auditor.

III—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

Rice:— Perlis produces sufficient rice for its own needs and is able to export on an average about 150,000 pikuls of padi and rice annually. Owing to a poor harvest only 108,008 pikuls were exported in 1347.

The area of land alienated for wet padi planting in the State is about 38,000 acres. Of this area about 34,000 acres are reported to have been planted with wet padi during the year under review.

The average yield on the richer soil nearer the sea coast is about 450 gantangs an acre, but on the poorer laterite soils it falls to about 270 gantangs an acre.

Considerable use is made of the phosphate manure obtained from the limestone caves. It is ordinarily applied to the fields once in every three years. On the poorer soils it is said to have the effect of increasing the crop by 30 per cent or more. There is no doubt that with seed selection the crops could be increased, and it is hoped in the near future to have the trained staff to carry this out.

The padi crop harvested at the end of the year (season 1928–1929) was again poor, being estimated at 5,851,200 gantangs as compared with 5,434,000 gantangs in 1346 and 9,656,000 in 1345. As in the previous year the main reason for the poor crop was a drought at the beginning of the usual planting season.

Improvements in irrigation are being put in hand and when these are completed it is hoped that the crops will be less influenced than they are at present by the vagaries of the rainfall during the normal wet season.

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Rubber:— The area of mature rubber trees in the State is comparatively very small, but a fair number of Malay holdings have been planted up in the last few years. The total area under rubber is about 5,000 acres but only two estates exceed 500 acres each in area. The amount of rubber exported from the State during the year was 4,257 pikuls as against 4,119 pikuls in 1346.

Miscellaneous Crops:— Coconuts, arecanuts and tapioca are planted on a small scale. The following quantities were exported in 1347.

Tapioca	6,367	pikuls.
Copra	3,199	,,
Arecanuts	522	,,

Cattle and buffaloes:— The number of animals at the last Census was 10,225 cattle and 2,335 buffaloes. The export of cattle and buffaloes is at present prohibited except under special permits.

Poultry:— A large number of ducks are reared by Chinese, especially at the fishing villages of Kuala Perlis and Kuala Sanglang. Over four million fowls and ducks eggs were exported during the year: most of them are sent to Perak, but some are sent to Penang. The number of fowls and ducks exported in 1347 was 124,712.

Pests:—A large number of Giant snails (Achatina fulica) were discovered at Arau. Over 20,000 of them were collected and destroyed. This is the first time they have been observed in the State.

FORESTRY.

There is at present no organished Forest Department. The issue of passes for removal of timber and jungle produce is carried out by the Police.

The total revenue collected during the year from the issue of removal passes was $1,856, while the total royalty collected by way of export duty on timber and jungle produce amounted to $688.

In the early part of the year there was a demand for wood known locally as "Kayu Kederang" (a species of Cudrania). A yellow dye is obtained from this wood which is used in the Batik industry in Sumatra. Altogether 1,778 pikuls of this wood were exported.

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A feature of the State is the forest on the coastal plain extending nearly 10 miles inland. This forest, which is about 25 square miles in area, consists almost entirely of trees known as "Gelam" (a species of Melaleuca). The timber is used chiefly for firewood while Malays in the neighbourhood use the bark for roofing their temporary houses.

FISHERIES.

The State has a sea coast of about 13 miles in length and the waters off the coast are fairly shallow. The total amount of salt water fish exported out of the State during the year was 3,937 pikuls. The bulk of this was sent in a dried state to Penang.

Fresh water fish to the amount of 1,547 pikuls was exported to Penang. About half of this was dried before export.

MINING.

Tin-ore is mined in the north-west corner of the State. The total area of mining land held under mining titles at the end of the year was 2,411 acres. With the exception of 164 acres the whole of this area has been alienated for cave mining in the limestone hills or "Wangs" as they are known locally. The total amount of tin-ore exported during the year was 9,367 pikuls as compared with 9,234 pikuls in 1346 and 5,551 pikuls in 1345.

The output of ore is very dependent on the weather as the underground streams are quickly flooded by heavy rains. In the wet season very little mining is possible in the hills.

IV—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Trade. Figures are available only regarding the import and export of dutiable articles.

Comparative figures for 1346 and 1347 are given below in respect of the various dutiable articles imported into the State.

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Articles	1346	1347
Tobacco (pikuls)	557	562
Cigars (lbs)	638	692
Cigarettes (lbs)	34,194	29,648
European Spirits (gallons)	1,855	1,821
Chinese Spirits (gallons)	2,630	2,404
Beer, Cider Etc (gallons)	4,434	3,519
Petroleum (gallons)	147,632	153,432

The bulk of the articles imported into the State come from Penang, either by rail through Kedah or by sea direct in junks.

The quantity of the principal articles exported from the State is given below:—

Articles	1346	1347
Padi and Rice (pikuls)	139,007	108,008
Rubber (pikuls)	4,119	4,257
Copra (pikuls)	2,454	3,199
Betel-nut (pikuls)	528	522
Tin-Ore (pikuls)	9,234	9,367
Phosphates (tons)	550	422
Fish (pikuls)	4,706	5,710
Poultry	98,492	124,712
Eggs	3,327,884	4,057,349
Cattle (head)	47	34
Sheep and Goats (head)	128	161
Hides (pikul)	180	251

Other exports included tapioca flour, ataps and honey.

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Customs:— The total revenue from Customs duties was $228,660 as against $248,337 in 1346.

The principal items were:—

	1346	1347
	$	$
Import duty on liquor	34,831	33,395
do. petroleum	7,382	7,672
do. tobacco	57,861	52,953
Export duty on fish	4,915	7,757
do. padi and rice	32,113	27,959
do. poultry	9,849	12,471
do. rubber	11,058	6,491
do. tin-ore	81,691	72,669

The decrease in the total Customs Revenue is chiefly due to a fall in the price of tin, a reduction in the rate of export duty on rubber and smaller exports of padi and rice. Also, considerably fewer cigarettes were imported which was probably due to the depression in trade.

On the other hand receipts from the export duties on agricultural produce, fish and poultry showed satisfactory increases.

The export of the phosphate deposits found in the caves in the limestone hills has been prohibited except under special licence. These deposits form a valuable manure for the rice fields and it is necessary to conserve the supply for domestic use.

Chandu:— The amount of Chandu (prepared Opium) sold during the year was 16,776 tahils as against 20,435 tahils in 1346. The decrease is largely the result of a general trade depression. Chandu is sold only to adult male Chinese. There are six Government retail shops and two Government Smoking Saloons.

V—COMMUNICATIONS.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is maintained by the Kedah Government which also controls the telephone system.

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There is a post and telegraph office at Kangar. The following business was transacted at this office during the last 3 years:—

	1345	1346	1347
Letters	60,593	88,335	92,729
Registered Articles	3,628	3,816	3,806
Parcels	1,353	1,435	840
Telegrams	4,212	4,173	3,913

Money Orders and Postal Orders to the value of $29,937 were handled at the Kangar Post Office as compared with Orders to the value of $33,774 in 1346.

At the end of the year the Saving Bank included 34 separate accounts with a total amount of $621 on deposit.

At Padang Besar Railway Station, on the Siamese frontier, the following business was dealt with:—

	1345	1346	1347
Letters	33,033	34,762	39,897
Registered Articles	1,064	1,708	1,955
Parcels	58	55	52

ROADS.

There are 36½ miles of metalled roads in the State and 7 miles of unmetalled roads. The amount spent during the year on the upkeep of roads, streets and bridges including asphalting was $48,353. About 22 miles of path were also maintained.

The policy of asphalting the main roads in the State was continued.

No new roads were constructed during the year.

The Perlis River is largely used as a highway between Kangar and the fishing village of Kuala Perlis. Junks from Penang are able to sail up as far as Kangar during Spring Tides.

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SHIPPING.

The chief ports are at Kangar about 5 miles up the Perlis river and Kuala Sanglang on the sea coast. There are also Customs Stations on the coast at Kuala Perlis, and Sungei Bharu.

The number of junks entering decreased from 326 to 266 and the tonnage from 7,884 to 6,612. Small boats entering decreased from 374 to 333.

Small motor boats run fairly frequently to the Kedah River and to Setul in Siam.

VI—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

COURTS.

There are four Courts constituted in the State.

The Court of the Raja-in-Council hears appeals from the Senior Court.

The Senior Court consists of a Malay Judge sitting together with the Adviser. In any proceeding the decision of the Court is the decision agreed upon by the two members thereof and if they are unable to agree, the proceeding is referred for decision to the Court of the Raja.

The Senior Court has original criminal jurisdiction but no original civil jurisdiction. It has also appellate jurisdiction in all criminal and civil matters.

The Junior Court consists of a Malay Magistrate and has original civil jurisdiction. In its criminal jurisdiction it has power in certain cases to inflict a fine not exceeding $250 and any sentence of imprisonment not exceeding one year.

The Sheriah Court consists of the Chief Kathi or the Assistant Kathi and has jurisdiction in matters relating to the Muhammadan religion.

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The work done in the Courts during the year under review is tabulated hereunder:—

CRIMINAL COURTS.

	Cases from 1346.	Instituted in 1347.	Disposed of in 1347.	Pending at end of 1347.
Appeal Court ...	...	20	19	1
Senior Court ...	1	28	29	...
Junior Court ...	4	524	520	8
Sheriah Court ...	8	17	22	3

CIVIL COURTS.

	Cases from 1346.	Instituted in 1347.	Disposed of in 1347.	Pending at end of 1347.
Senior Court (Appeal)	1	25	25	1
Junior Court ...	58	769	800	27
Sheriah Court ...	5	55	56	4

There were 3 Criminal Appeals and 2 Civil Appeals to the Raja's Court. One Criminal Appeal was allowed. The other Appeals were dismissed.

Twenty nine Administration suits were disposed of during the year.

POLICE.

The police force is in charge of a Malay Officer who is styled Chief of Police. With few exceptions the whole Force is Malay.

The health of the force was good during the year except at Kaki Bukit village.

Discipline was fair. A lance corporal completed a period of training at the Police Depot at Kuala Lumpur and is now carrying out the duties of drill instructor.

There are 7 police stations in the State.

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The number of reports received at the various stations was 258 as against 320 in the previous year. The number of reports of theft received in 1347 was 105. In addition there were 24 reports regarding the stealing of cattle.

There were 3 reports of murder received during the year. In one case a Chinese was found dead on the sea-shore. Certain persons were suspected and tried by the Court, but the evidence against them was insufficient. In the other two cases a conviction of culpable homicide not amounting to murder was obtained.

PRISONS.

There is only one Prison in the State and this is situated at Kangar.

The Adviser is Superintendent of Prisons and is assisted by a Gaoler. The staff consisted at the end of the year of 4 Sikh N.C.O's and 4 Sikh and 11 Malay Warders.

There were 39 prisoners remaining at the end of the previous year. 158 were admitted during 1347, eleven of whom were women.

47 prisoners remained at the end of the year.

Discipline was fair and the health of the prisoners was again satisfactory.

Rice is purchased and milled in the prison. During the year 19,248 gantangs of padi were milled and sold for $3,854.

In addition to rice milling the work done inside the prison included carpentry, basketry and the making of licence plates and boards.

A considerable amount of extra-mural work was performed such as scavenging, grass-cutting and drain-cleaning.

A garden was started during the year for the supply of vegetables to the prison.

The total revenue collected was $6,387 as compared with $6,694 in 1346. The total expenditure was $18,186.

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VII—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is under the charge of a European Assistant Engineer seconded from the Federated Malay States. The State Engineer, Kedah gave valuable advice in more important matters and paid monthly visits to the State. The average labour force of the Department was 173. Their health was generally good.

The total expenditure of the Department was $139,548 of which $12,251 was in respect of Personal Emoluments.

Works and Buildings:— Schools and Teachers quarters were completed at Abi, Santan and Utan Aji while others were under construction at Arau, Kuala Perlis and Sanglang. With the exception of those at Abi and Santan, these schools were to replace existing buildings of an old type. An additional block of Police barracks was erected at Kangar. Two filter beds at the headworks of the Kangar and Arau water supply were completed during the year. A sum of $5,594 was spent on the maintenance of the waterworks.

Roads, Streets and Bridges:— Particulars regarding the roads in the State are given in Part V. Several wooden bridges were replaced by reinforced concrete bridges or culverts and very few wooden bridges are now left on the main roads in the State. A stone-crusher was purchased during the year for supplying metal and sand for asphalting.

Irrigation and Drainage:— A ferro-concrete dam at Padang Malau across the Pelarit river, commenced in 1346, was completed in time to irrigate the rice fields in the vicinity during the planting season in 1347. The total cost of maintenance of Waterways and Irrigation Works during the year was $7,419.

VIII—PUBLIC HEALTH.

A General Hospital is maintained by Government at Kangar with ward accommodation for 60 patients. The hospital is in charge of an Assistant Surgeon.

The State Surgeon, Kedah paid monthly visits to the Hospital in addition to advising on matters of importance concerning public health.

A travelling dispensary visited outlying localities and was much appreciated by the rural population.

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The number of in-patients treated at the hospital during the year was 1,104. The percentage of deaths was 5.16 as compared with 6.25 in 1346. If deaths within 48 hours of admission are omitted the death rate was 3.98.

Out-door patients numbered 6,638 of whom 3,891 were Malays, 1,450 Indians and 1,102 Chinese.

Neosalvarsan injections numbered 3,370, of which 2,233 were for yaws and 1,137 for other conditions.

Mental cases were transferred to the Central Mental Hospital at Tanjong Rambutan in Perak, and there were 15 Perlis patients at that institution at the end of the year. There were 3 Perlis patients in the Leper Asylum at Pulau Jerejak near Penang.

Vital Statistics:— The birth rate for the year was 28.03 per mille and the death rate 16.35 per mille. The figures for the previous year were 24.26 and 15.56 per mille respectively. The number of deaths which occurred among infants up to a year old was 146. The infantile death rate per thousand births was 111.03 as compared with 100.00 in 1346 and 136.08 in 1345. It is unfortunate that practically none of these cases seek medical aid.

Malaria is responsible for the largest proportion of the total deaths in the State. Infantile convulsions and Lung diseases come next in the mortality scale.

Veterinary:— There were 7 cases of rabies in 1347, the last being in the 7th month (December, 1928). There was no cattle epidemic in the State during the year.

Meteorological:— The Climate is described in the Prefatory Note. The total rainfall at Kangar during the year 1928 was below the average being 72.36 as compared with the average for the previous 10 years of 80.20 inches.

The highest shade temperature during 1928 was 96° and the lowest 66°.

Abstracts of Meteorological observations are given in Appendices D, E and F.

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IX—EDUCATION.

There are 18 Malay Boys' Schools maintained by Government with an average enrolment of 1,636 pupils.

The number of Malay Girls' Schools was increased to 3 by the completion during the year of a new School at Abi and the average enrolment is about 200.

There is a demand for a fourth Girls' School, but there is a difficulty in getting suitable women teachers. This demand indicates a change in the views of the parents towards education as it is not many years ago since the first girls' school in the State was opened with an extremely small attendance.

During the year two students completed their course at the Sultan Idris Training College at Tanjong Malim in Perak. These are the first two trained teachers in the State, and through them instruction is now being given to some of the untrained teachers. The weakest subject taught by the untrained teachers is arithmetic.

Basketry has now been started in most of the schools. A commencement was made to provide football grounds for each school and arrangements are being made to start school gardens.

There are four Perlis students at the Sultan Idris Training College and four boys are studying in English Schools at Penang at Government expense.

The total expenditure of the Department amounted to $39,648 as against $36,272 in 1346 and $34,865 in 1345.

The Kuan Yik School for Chinese at Kangar is maintained by the Chinese Community and has an enrolment of 114 boys and 32 girls.

X—LANDS AND SURVEY.

LAND AND MINES.

Agricultural land is now alienated under titles known as Small Grants which may be held in perpetuity. There are however still in existence a large number of old grants for land which were issued without any accurate demarcation of the boundaries. As demarcation with prismatic compass proceeds these old Grants are being exchanged for Small Grants. In addition a large number of holdings have

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been occupied for many years on a form of temporary occupation licence, no premium having been paid for the land. Efforts are being made to induce those who wish to occupy the land permanently to put in applications for permanent titles. It will be seen that Land administration is in a transition stage. The existing Land laws are contained in two or three primitive Enactments and are far from complete. It is hoped that it may be possible to introduce a consolidated Land Enactment in the near future.

The total area of agricultural land alienated at the end of the year was 55,563 acres, and the rent rolls show a total annual rental of $48,642. The above does not include land held under temporary occupation licences on which $7,041 was collected in 1347.

There are large arrears of rent due but these were reduced during the year from about $18,000 to $13,392 and it is hoped to make a further considerable reduction during 1348. There is a falling off in the demand for land and land sales realised only $8,902 as compared with $19,066 in 1346 and $24,251 in 1345.

During the year 522 acres were alienated for padi planting, 266 acres for rubber planting and 134 acres for orchards and general cultivation.

Five Prospecting Licences and sixteen Mining Certificates were issued during the year. Mining rents collected amounted to $3,944.

SURVEY.

The Department is under the supervision of the Superintendent of Surveys, Kedah and the Assistant Superintendent, North Kedah. All Office Work is done by the Kedah Survey Office.

The total number of lots demarcated at the end of the year amounted to 24,909.

The total expenditure of the Department for 1347 was $16,066.

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XI—LABOUR.

Conditions of labour are governed by the Labour Code 1345, under which the Controller of Labour, Malaya is Controller of Labour for the State.

About 300 South Indian labourers are employed on rubber estates while about 90 are employed by Government in the Public Works Department.

The labour employed on the tin mines at Kaki Bukit is almost entirely Chinese.

XII—MISCELLANEOUS.

STATE COUNCIL.

During the year under review the State Council met on 29 occasions, His Highness the Raja presiding at every meeting. One Enactment was passed, namely an Enactment to amend the Motor Cars Enactment, 1335.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

The following table shows the growth of the Co-operative movement in the State since the passing of the Co-operative Societies Enactment in 1345 (September, 1926).

Year	No. of Societies	No. of Members	Total Working Capital
1345	2	159	$2,703
1346	6	407	$13,638
1347	9	517	$27,789

All these societies with the exception of one, the Government Servants' Thrift and Loan Society, are Rural Credit Societies.

The careful attention given to the earlier societies appears to be bearing fruit in that the rural population is now taking more interest in the Co-operative movement and showing an increasing faith in the benefits to be derived from it. At the same time the majority of the members of the Rural Credit Societies are still far too illiterate to be capable of keeping the accounts and managing the affairs of their own societies without the constant personal help and attention of the Registrar.

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The movement in the State is also fortunate in having the enthusiastic support of Tuan Haji Ahmad, the Chief Magistrate. During the year Mr. R. Boyd, M.C.S. Assistant Director of Co-operation, F.M.S. and S.S. and Mr. C. F. Strickland, I.C.S. visited the State and their advice on Co-operative matters was much appreciated.

MUNICIPAL.

There is a Sanitary Board which is responsible for the health, construction of buildings and other municipal matters in Kangar Town and in the villages of Arau, Padang Besar and Kaki Bukit.

The Board consists of a Chairman, the Assistant Engineer, the Assistant Surgeon, the Chief of Police and certain unofficial members for each area. The thanks of Government are again due to the unofficial members for their valuable assistance.

The death during the year of Mr. Tan Teng Song, who had been an active unofficial member of the Board at Kangar, is much regretted.

GENERAL.

His Highness the Raja enjoyed excellent health throughout the year, and celebrated his 46th birthday on October 26th, 1928. During the year His Highness completed his twenty-fifth year since his accession and the occasion was marked by three days celebrations in the month of May, 1929. The celebrations, which were a great success, were given the name of "Zainat-ul-Muluk" which means a gathering of the people in honour of the Raja. On the first day His Highness received addresses from the various communities and in the afternoon toured the roads of the State in his motor car followed by the Heads of Departments. Every few miles along the route of 30 miles the the procession halted for the reading of short addresses from the schools. In the evening there was a State Dinner at which the Secretary to the High Commissioner represented His Excellency.

The proceedings on the second day included a "mengadap" ceremony in which the officials made loyal obeisance to His Highness the Raja according to Malay custom. The remainder of the celebrations was given up chiefly to entertainments.

In July 1928 His Highness the Raja paid a private visit to Kuala Lumpur, Malacca, Muar and Singapore.

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On 18th April, 1929 His Highness visited Penang and was granted an interview with His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester who was on his way to Japan as head of the Garter Mission.

The King's birthday and Armistice day were celebrated with official functions at which His Highness the Raja was present.

There are now two troops of Boy Scouts, one Malay and one Chinese, with a total roll of 3 Scouters and 63 Scouts. The first investiture of Scouts was held in August, 1928. In September several of the Perlis Scouts were invited to attend a Kedah Scout Camp at Kulim, and two months later some of the Kedah Scouts joined in a two days camp in Perlis.

The total eclipse of the Sun on May 9th was visible in Perlis.

Mr. L. A. Allen, M.C.S. acted as British Adviser throughout the year.

L. A. ALLEN,

Ag. British Adviser to the Government of Perlis.

Kangar, 14th October, 1929.

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APPENDIX A.

Return of Annual Revenue collected in the years A.H. 1345, 1346 and 1347.

Headings.	1345.	1346.	1347.
	$	$	$
Chandu Monopoly ...	220,874	218,948	187,673
Courts	18,714	21,381	16,724
Customs	217,416	246,337	228,660
Excise	605	637	626
Forests	1,610	1,826	1,856
Harbours	3,386	3,503	3,395
Lands	85,616	85,412	77,733
Medical	1,669	1,622	1,833
Mines	3,724	4,966	4,489
Miscellaneous	30,515	27,925	28,767
Municipal	16,153	16,978	17,667
Police	6,013	6,549	5,538
Prisons	5,916	6,694	6,387
Sheriah Court	1,608	1,515	1,202
Veterinary	846	821	779
TOTAL ...	614,665	645,114	583,329

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APPENDIX B.

Return of Annual Expenditure incurred in the years A.H. 1345, 1346 and 1347.

Headings.	1345.	1346.	1347.
	$	$	$
Ruling House Allowances, Pensions etc	16,353	16,110	18,036
His Highness the Raja ...	34,957	36,583	44,522
Office Raja and Adviser ...	16,000	16,119	16,882
Audit Office	2,292	2,698	3,344
Chandu Monopoly	8,942	10,960	13,314
Co-operative Societies... ...	1,762	3,968	5.386
Courts	12,897	15,004	15,852
Customs and Harbours ...	13,647	14,930	16,177
Education	34,865	36,272	39,648
Inspector of Lands	3,318	3,799	4,945
Lands and Mines	16,288	16,525	15,867
Medical	20,921	23,585	22,742
Miscellaneous Services ...	55,420	64,657	67,632
Mosques	4,013	4,111	4,529
Municipal	9,533	10,891	12,507
Penghulus	5,341	6,156	6,612
Police	35,633	39,159	41,567
Prisons	15,263	17,378	18,186
Sheriah Court	4,757	5,372	6,378
Surveys	16,800	18,747	16,066
Treasury	4,751	3,580	4,345
Public Works Department ...	18,728	17,924	14,982
Public Works, Annually Recurrent	64,422	80,278	84,383
Public Works, Special Services ...	163,865	108,122	40,183
Repayment of Loan to F. M. S. Government	50,000	50,000	50,000
TOTAL ...	630,768	622,928	584,085

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APPENDIX C.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the two years 1346 and 1347.

Liabilities.	At end of 1346 (19-6-28)	At end of 1347 (8-6-29)	Assets.	At end of 1346 (19-6-28)	At end of 1347 (8-6-29)
	$	$		$	$
Loan	100,000	50,000	Cash in Treasury	46,030	49,388
Deposits	46,436	39,899	Cash at Bank	77,691	87,628
Excess of Assets	377,447	426,802	Investments	295,000	295,000
			Advances	10,632	5,405
			Loans	94,530	79,280
TOTAL ...	523,883	516,701	TOTAL ...	523,883	516,701

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APPENDIX D.

Abstract of Rainfall Observations at Kangar during the ten years 1919–1928.

MONTHS	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	Average
January ...	1·04	0·40	5·82	3·14	1·50	0·71	1·76	0·10	4·06	1·98	2·05
February ...	2·04	5·07	0·09	4·51	1·67	2·04	0·90	1·31	4·03	1·43	2·31
March ...	3·42	0·90	7·58	12·61	1·62	1·14	5·79	1·98	7·93	6·96	4·99
April ...	5·07	11·71	3·19	5·39	7·69	5·55	8·41	3·16	5·97	5·21	6·14
May ...	10·83	3·78	15·36	9·34	7·00	8·68	5·50	9·02	9·06	12·87	9·14
June ...	4·43	4·84	5·36	4·37	4·97	4·62	7·89	5·40	5·04	4·37	5·13
July ...	6·45	8·26	7·15	6·15	7·98	7·09	5·03	6·24	12·88	3·29	7·05
August ...	2·96	8·67	9·73	11·70	5·56	11·81	9·97	7·14	14·24	5·90	8·77
September ...	14·02	11·41	17·69	13·32	16·79	8·95	5·08	5·58	10·80	12·64	11·63
October ...	13·13	12·42	8·04	14·55	14·28	8·80	8·92	9·08	8·96	10·12	10·83
November ...	15·07	6·94	7·07	6·90	12·86	6·10	6·29	6·79	6·77	5·12	7·99
December ...	4·59	8·08	0·22	5·03	5·49	1·49	3·17	9·81	1·30	2·47	4·17
TOTAL ...	83·05	82·48	87·30	97·01	87·41	66·98	68·71	65·61	91·04	72·36	80·20

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APPENDIX E.

Abstract of Rainfall Observations at three Stations of the State during the years 1928 and 1929 (part).

Months.	Kangar.		Kaki Bukit.		Padang Besar.	
	1928	1929	1928	1929	1928	1929
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
January ...	1·98	0·39	2·09	0·68	1·48	0·60
February ...	1·43	4·99	3·20	2·15	2·85	2·53
March ...	6·96	10·50	6·24	6·10	4·79	6·13
April ...	5·21	4·92	6·58	6·91	5·46	6·25
May ...	12·87	6·99	8·84	6·64	7·04	3·67
June ...	4·37	9·20	2·00	4·35	1·92	2·81
July ...	3·29	2·21	3·26	2·18	5·20	0·76
August ...	5·90	3·94	10·50	3·02	5·82	3·14
September ...	12·64	14·33	12·29	9·94	7·28	9·98
October ...	10·12	...	10·84	...	11·21	...
November ...	5·12	...	8·24	...	6·77	...
December ...	2·47	..	8·20	...	8·39	...
TOTAL ...	72·36	...	82·28	...	68·21	...

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APPENDIX F.

Abstract of Thermometrical Observations at the General Hospital, Kangar during the years 1928 and 1929 (part).

Months	Thermometer Mean (In Shade)			Highest recorded Shade Temperature	Lowest recorded Shade Temperature
	Maximum	Minimum	Range		
1928.					
January ...	91·0	71·7	19 3	94	66
February ...	91·8	72·1	19·7	96	69
March ...	92·2	72·5	19 7	95	70
April ...	91·3	74·0	17·3	94	72
May ...	88·9	74·5	14·4	96	72
June ...	90·0	74·1	15·9	92	72
July ...	90·6	73·8	16·8	94	72
August ...	88·6	73·5	15·1	92	72
September ...	87·0	73·3	13·7	92	72
October ...	86·7	73·2	13·5	94	70
November ...	89·1	72·1	17.0	92	68
December ...	87·3	71·8	15·5	94	68
Mean for year 1928	89·5	73·0	16·5	...	...
1929.					
January ...	89·6	70·2	19·4	94	64
February ...	90·8	72·6	18·2	94	70
March ...	92·1	72·1	20·0	95	69
April ...	93·0	73·3	19·7	96	71
May ...	91·3	73·9	17·4	96	72
June ...	89·2	73·3	15·9	92	72
July ...	89·9	72·8	17·1	92	70
August ...	89·4	72·6	16·8	92	70
September ...	87·7	73·3	14·4	92	72
October ...	...	...	...	...	...
November ...	...	...	...	...	...
December ...	...	...	...	...	...

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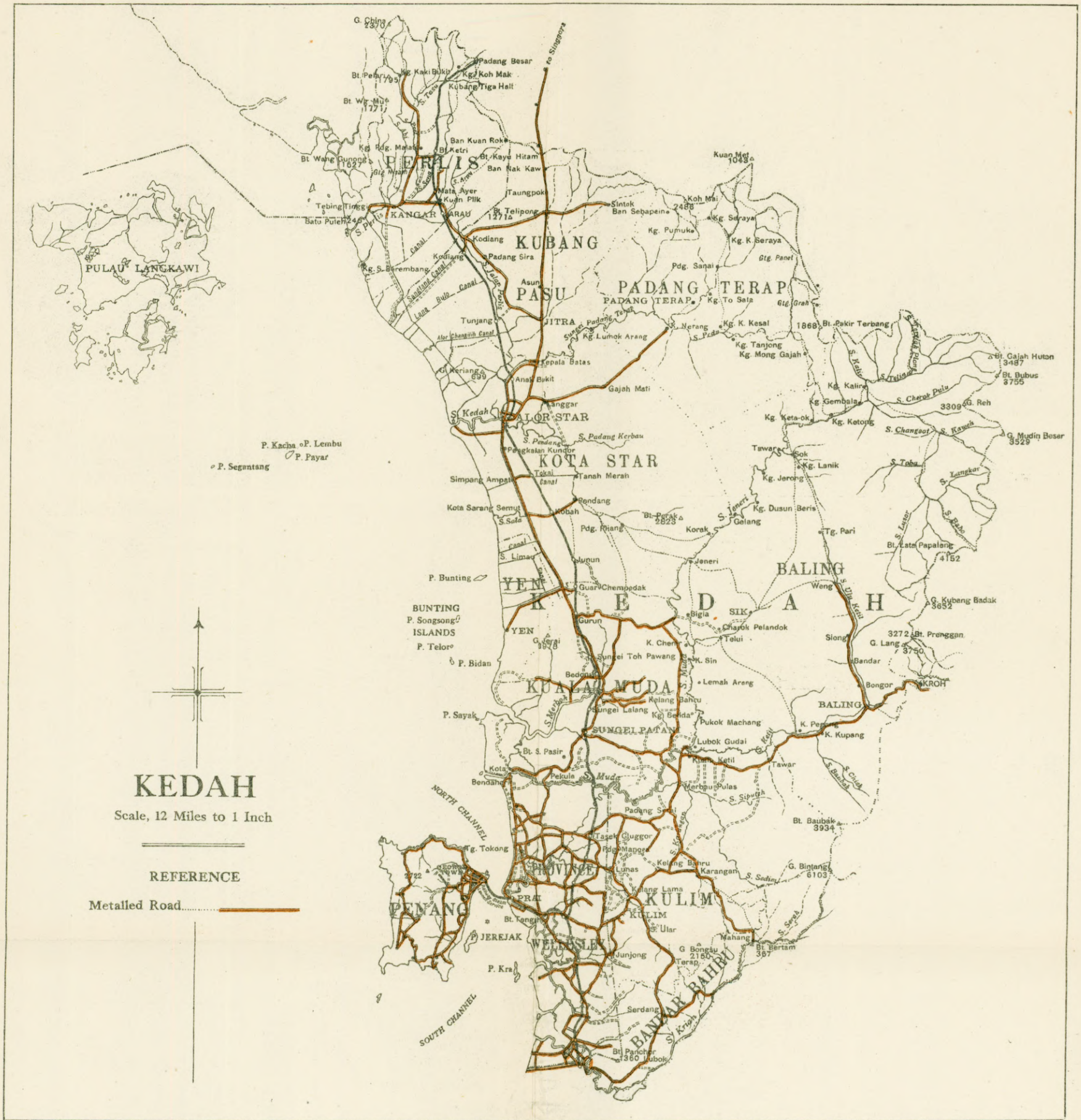

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Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not

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known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

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The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

The policy of the Executive Government during the period under review was directed largely towards persuading the Legislature to establish a sound system of finance. The attention of this body was drawn to the fact that the time had arrived when it was necessary either to curtail expenditure, raise loans, or increase taxation. The first two solutions were preferred. Expenditure on public works was curtailed and a loan of £20,000 was raised locally in order to balance the budget. Taxation is very light in Bermuda and the revenue is mainly derived from Customs duties—in 1927 this was £196,698 out of a total revenue of £259,943. There is no income tax, no land or property tax, and no estate duties payable on transfer or probate.

General Sir John Asser, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., completed his term as Governor of the Colony in July. He had devoted his services mainly towards the improvement of sanitation, the reclamation of marshes, the beautifying of the Colony by flower growing, the development of the local sale of agricultural products, and the promotion of a railway to solve the question of inland transportation. He was succeeded by Lieut.-General Sir Louis Bols, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., who arrived in Bermuda on the 2nd of September.

This year was further signalized by the first law passed providing for a contribution towards the Imperial garrison maintained in the islands; the actual amount was based on the numbers in the garrison with provision for a further payment of 2s. 6d. per head of the population, payable in 1930, when final payments will have been completed in respect of a contribution made towards the cost of the Great War.

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II.—FINANCE.

The Colony is in a strong financial position in so far as dependance on the tourist traffic can be laid. The public debt amounts to £70,000 only and provision has been made for a sinking fund to take care of this. Some £130,000 is raised by an *ad valorem* import duty of 10 per cent., plus one-tenth of this on goods produced in foreign countries, and £70,000 on specific duties.

The revenue and expenditure for the five years ending on the 31st of December, 1927, have been as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure from Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1923	249,302	237,925	—
1924	251,591	260,969	—
1925	243,425	300,283	—
1926	256,402	260,784	31,663
1927	259,943	268,495	35,847

The revenue derived in certain years from the export duty on spirits is not included in the tabular statement of revenue and expenditure above as it is liable to be misleading. In 1923, 1924, and 1925 the amounts so derived were £77,548, £60,613, and £5,051, respectively, or a total of £143,212. A wise use was made of this windfall. A channel loan of £40,000 was paid off, £69,000 was devoted to the reclamation of marshes, a fine hospital was built up, and channel improvement works were carried out from current revenue. The surplus moneys accumulated did not however suffice for the expansion of expenditure; in 1926 and again in 1927 resort was made to loans in order to balance the budget, as the House of Assembly was unwilling to impose fresh taxation. It was also found necessary in 1927 to curtail the expenditure on public works which were more or less urgently required. The expenditure from Reserves on Marsh Reclamation in 1927 was £35,847, the total expenditure to the end of the year being £65,486. About five acres had then been reclaimed, but the expenditure includes £23,184 for the purchase of land.

There is a Government Note issue of £38,000 out of a total of £40,000 authorized by law. The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £47,886 on the 1st of January, 1927. There is no coin reserve. By a law passed in April (Act 15 of 1927) the Governor-in-Council was empowered to authorize the issue of notes to the value of the investments for redemption. This stood at £50,378 at the end of 1927. During the year, notes of a new design to the nominal value of £150,000 were ordered

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in London to replace the existing stock, which was manufactured in the United States in wartime, and to provide for exchanging old and defaced notes.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1927, was £137,297. The surplus moneys available for general purposes on this date were £35,495. This included however £13,344, the balance of the proceeds of a loan of £20,000 paid into General Revenue under the authority of the Bermuda Local Loan Act, 1927. The remaining liquid reserves must, as far as it is possible to foresee, be absorbed in Marsh Reclamation works, as it has been the considered policy of the Legislature to devote the reserves accumulated in 1924 and 1925 to this service.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st of December was £84,568, as against £78,741 and £74,604 in 1926 and 1925 respectively.

The public debt repayable at par in 1950 stood at £70,000 at the end of the year. £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, and the balance in 1927. Under the Bermuda Local Loan Act, 1892, which governs these loans, payments into a sinking fund begin three years from the date of the first issue of stock. The rate of interest is 5 per cent. and the last loan was raised at a premium of £1 8s. per £100. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on the 31st of December was £23,025.

There are two private banks in the Colony—the Bank of Bermuda, Ltd., and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Ltd. The authorised capital in each case is £15,000. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £488,864 19s. 11d. and £427,803 3s. 4d. respectively.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The only industry of the Colony, apart from boat-building on a small scale and fishing for local consumption, is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs for export.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1924 to 1927, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity.	*Net Bermuda Exports. Value.*	*Consumed locally. Farm Value.*	*Total Value of Crop.*
	Bushels.	£	£	£
1924 ...	416,604	192,000	174,000	366,000
1925 ...	313,280	104,500	166,000	270,500
1926 ...	426,896	190.526	185,000	375,526
1927 ...	371,887	133,128	191,000	324,128

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The chief crops and their destination in 1927 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes	34,670 barrels	U.S.A.
	28 ,,	Canada.
	1,374 ,,	British West Indies.
Celery	54,651 crates	U.S.A.
Parsley	55,619 ,,	U.S.A.
Carrots	44,833 ,,	U.S.A.
Kale	7,733 ,,	U.S.A.
Onions	10,486 ,,	U.S.A.
	8,042 ,,	Canada.
	1,042 ,,	British West Indies.
Tomatoes	16,056 ,,	Canada.
	132 ,,	British West Indies.

The total value of the exports to the United States was £198,682, including lily bulbs, of which 5,814 cases were shipped to the value of £13,374. Exports to Canada were valued at £8,421 and to the West Indies at £2,219. The only export to Great Britain was 107 cases of lily bulbs, valued at £2 10s. a case.

The expenditure on the Agricultural Department during the year was £6,894, or £400 less than in 1926. Two members only of the staff, the Director and the Plant Pathologist, had received scientific training out of Bermuda.

The planting is entirely in the hands of small farmers. There are some 17 holdings only of more than 10 acres, the largest being 46½ acres.

There are 314 farmers on the registers of the Department. Of these, 133 are Portuguese, 94 other white races, and 87 coloured.

The total area cultivated was approximately 1,231 acres, of which 422 were farmed by owners or part owners and 809 by tenants.

The number of acres under potatoes in 1927 was 653, green vegetables 298, bananas 84, lilies 76, onions 74, and celery 65.

It has not hitherto been found possible to obtain any reliable statistics regarding the financial standing of the farming community. The majority of the farmers are very reluctant to give information on this point.

It was estimated in 1927 that the farmer received 63 per cent. of the sale value of his crop exported, the balance being taken up in freight and charges.

The average New York prices in 1927 were :—

	s.	d.
Carrots per bushel	6	3
Celery per bushel	11	1
Lettuce per bushel	4	1
Onions per bushel	10	6
Parsley per bushel	6	6
Potatoes per barrel	44	7

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1927 four passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Co., Ltd., and two to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. The former firm were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £20,000 a year. The construction during the course of the year of the 20,000-ton motor vessel "Bermuda," built for Messrs. Furness Withy especially for this trade at a cost of about £1,000,000, was completed. The first-class passenger accommodation on board this luxurious steamer is about 700. The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

	Expenditure. £	*Tourists.*
1923	42,628	26,761
1924	45,984	25,653
1925	39,531	26,190
1926	34,904	27,214
1927	36,694	30,816

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £8,500 in America, £2,000 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,000 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. The steamer subsidy of £20,000 is included under this head. It has been estimated that the average stay of tourists is 10 days, during which each tourist will spend from £2 a day upwards.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 10s. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 11 per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

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The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1923	1,882,401	493,800
1924	1,815,023	446,252
1925	1,325,041	166,020
1926	1,404,824	239,553
1927	1,532,794	249,958

Imports.

From.	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
United Kingdom	436,801	367,521
British Colonies	296,497	272,245
Foreign Countries	799,496	765,058
	£1,532,794	£1,404,824

The articles in which there is competition with the United States, which supplies practically all imports from foreign countries, are not many in number. Electrical goods, cigarettes, and the faultily-described fancy goods are the most important. There is undoubtedly a good opening for leather ware from the United Kingdom. The bulk of the boots and shoes are imported from the United States of America, and an investigation on this subject is needed.

It should be recognised in discussing this question that the rapid turnover for a retail trader in dealing with America is a strong factor.

Exports.

To.	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
United Kingdom	8,035	9,275
British Colonies	14,383	32,118
Foreign Countries	227,540	198,160
	£249,958	£239,553

CHIEF ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

	1927. £	*1926.* £
Empty Oil Barrels	17,530	16,876
Lily Bulbs	16,772	14,294
Potatoes	97,360	80,665
Other Vegetables	104,136	89,046
Whiskey	500	15,160

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General.

Although there has been a gratifying increase in 1927 in the trade with the United Kingdom and Canada, it is too early to say whether this is likely to be continued. It is possible that it may be due to some extent to the fact that 1927 was the first full year in which the Imperial Preference Act of 1925 was in force, relieving all Empire goods of a surtax of one-tenth of the *ad valorem* duty payable on goods imported from other sources. It is not possible to suggest any specific articles, except hardware and boots and shoes, in which British trade might be increased.

Openings for trade and employment in Bermuda.

There is a considerable amount of competition at present in Bermuda among local merchants in the supply of dry and fancy goods, hardware, provisions, and clothing. Those who are established discourage newcomers. A number of reliable commission agents, whose addresses can be supplied on application to the Department of Overseas Trade in London or the Colonial Secretary in Bermuda, are doing business in the Colony. They are agents for the principal British firms in all commodities.

No one is advised to go to Bermuda without a definite opening in prospect, as opportunities are limited.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 3,041,350 tons, a decrease of 147,563 tons compared with 1926.

The following Table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.		*Sail.* Tons.		*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,232,290	+	1,780	=	1,234,071
Cleared	1,231,188	+	1,636	=	1,232,824
Total British Shipping					2,466,895

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.		*Sail.* Tons.		*Total.* Tons.
Entered	272,217	+	11,552	=	283,769
Cleared	277,839	+	12,847	=	290,686
Total Foreign Shipping					574,455

Total Tonnage.

1927	British ... 2,466,895	Total ...	3,041,350

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In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at about fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and the Canadian Government Merchant Marine. The former withdrew from the service at the end of May.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Postal.

284 mails were received from overseas and 216 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to the constant stream of tourists. 83,662 parcels were received. The money-order business amounted to £65,202. Of this, orders to the value of £57,783 were issued in addition to 10,557 postal orders of the value of £5,102.

The transit to London for mails is usually 11 days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1d. per ounce or part of an ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1s. 6d., and England 2s. 4d., a word. There is a weekend letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11s. 8d. (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the Station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The Station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 K.W. The wave-length is to be between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 K.W. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations.

Telephones.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £8 10s. (residential) to £11 10s. per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges.

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

This section does not call for any particular comment. 282 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 190 in 1926. Of these, 240 were men; 122 (98 in 1926) were first offenders, seven (10 in 1926) were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 144 (85 in 1926) for three months or less.

770 persons were prosecuted, of whom 13 were discharged, 716 punished on summary conviction, and 41 dealt with by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 30 were for offences against property, and 11 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

1927 was marked by the passage of five Acts dealing with the consolidation of the laws relating to Police, Prisons, Juries, Establishment, and Superannuation.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been on the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. £298,200 has been spent on this object since 1910. During the five years ending on the 31st of December, 1927, the amount of £117,109 was expended. The Narrows Ship Channel was widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout.

During the three years 1925 to 1927, 22 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department has been on dredging; 20.3 per cent. on the reclamation of marshes, and 57.7 per cent. on general works.

The work on the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital and its extensions was practically completed during the year at a total cost since 1914 of £54,046.

£13,535 had been expended on the new Aquarium completed in 1927, and £6,246 on a new school for coloured children. The estimate for the total cost of the latter is £18,000, and it will provide for 1,000 scholars.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads was £18,972 and on construction £957. The mileage of the roads is about 105, of which 36 are macadamized.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda rejoices in a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. As stated by the Director of the Health Department in his report for 1927, it is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

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Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the islands, so they have always been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

A hospital for infectious diseases was opened on the 1st of January, 1927. The admissions were few—11 cases of diphtheria, four of mumps, two of chicken pox, and one of scarlet fever.

A venereal diseases clinic, established at the general hospital in 1926, gave 522 treatments to 51 cases in 1927, as against 268 to 34 cases in the former year.

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1924 to 1927, with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927*
Chicken Pox	50	20	103	35
Diphtheria	29	17	42	19
Typhoid	33	28	10	14
Tuberculosis	—	3	19	12
Measles	33	3	18	2
Scarlet Fever	65	2	1	1
Other diseases	1	9	17	32
Total ...	211	82	210	115

Tuberculosis became notifiable in the course of 1925 for the first time.

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1927 was recorded as follows : 6 from typhoid, 11 from tuberculosis, 7 from pneumonia. Of this list, one case only was that of a visitor to the islands.

The total death-rate was 12.2 and the birth-rate 26.2 per 1,000.

The infantile mortality rate for the past five years has been : 1923 93, 1924 103, 1925 91, 1926 119, 1927 81, per 1,000 living births.

The administration of public health control is unsatisfactory. In each parish there is a local board of health which is primarily responsible for sanitation. There is also a general board of health with strictly limited powers. The latter consists of six members appointed by the Governor, one representative of each parish, nine in number, and one from each municipality This forms an unwieldy body of 17 members. In eight of the parishes there is no special sanitary tax ; in six there is no collection of refuse and garbage, etc. In the chief residential parish, the assessed value of the property in which is over £400,000, the total expenditure on sanitation in 1927 was £36. The position has been made more difficult by the refusal of the Legislature to make provision for a trained sanitary inspection service. It is eloquent testimony to the healthiness of the Colony that there has been such comparatively little sickness in the past and that the death-rate is so low.

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There is reason to hope that the Legislature will take the position into consideration at an early date and will by centralizing health administration render the Colony in a short time as free from the risk of disease as human precaution can effect.

During the course of the year, a small leper station was established for the segregation of all lepers in the Colony. These were as far as was known only 10 in number. Separate houses were built for them.

The most important move for the betterment of health conditions made during the year was the initiation of the work of the Bermuda Welfare Society, a society composed of a number of ladies associated together for the establishment of a district nursing service, more particularly for the benefit of the poorer people.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 2,876 in 1927. The average number on the school lists was 3,545 and the average attendance 2,943 or 83 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1927 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	620	1,773	2,393
Unaided	195	220	415
Taught at home	23	36	59
Physically or mentally unfit ...	2	7	9
Total	840	2,036	2,876

32 schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 21 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on Education in 1927 was £21,379, of which the principal items were :

Administration £985, Scholarships £754, Buildings £6,379, and General Grant £11,358.

The system of education cannot be considered to be good. The schools are mainly poorly equipped and without play-grounds, and no provision is made for teaching the elements of any trade or industry.

The Director of Education in his report for 1927 states that the average child on leaving school finds himself with a very fair grounding in arithmetic but with no practical knowledge of how to apply

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his training, and weak in English though able to write a fairly legible hand. Geography is taught in the traditional style and an outline of early English history comprises his knowledge of History. He may have learnt some elementary hygiene and will probably be fairly well versed in some parts of the Bible.

There are very few certified teachers except the headmasters, and there is no local institute for the training of teachers. Children have to buy their own school-books and materials if their parents can afford them, or do without. The Director of Education has made certain recommendations for the future which will, if supported by the Board, be brought gradually into effect. The Board is prepared for a progressive policy.

Six of the aided schools teach secondary school subjects in the higher forms. Four of these send in candidates every year for the Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1927, out of 64 candidates who sat for these examinations six passed the preliminary, 15 the junior, and eight obtained School Certificates.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898-99. This is naturally much out of date and proposals for a new survey are under consideration. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates. As noted in a previous part of this report, the agricultural industry utilizes some 1,236 acres only, divided into 314 farms.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 640 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1927.

The transfer of land is entirely by deed involving a recital of previous ownerships. It is hoped that this cumbrous and archaic system will be remedied at an early date.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was as usual no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand is normally slightly in excess of the supply. Probably about one-sixth of the labour comes from the West Indies and the same proportion from the Azores. The latter are mainly engaged in agriculture. Wages are from 9s. to 11s. per diem for unskilled men and 14s. to 16s. for artisans. Domestic servants are paid from 25s. to 40s. per week.

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XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living in Bermuda is very high, but this is not due to taxation. Meat, ice, inland transport, and electric current are all more expensive than in other places in similar conditions. Meat costs from 1s. 3d. to 3s. a lb., and ice 1d. per lb. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3s. for half a mile or less and 8s. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 1s. per kilowatt for light and 6d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap is about £200 a year. The cost of living for a single man is about £3 to £6 a week according to standard.

No motor-cars for private use are allowed in the islands.

Meteorological.

The range of temperature during 1927 was between 45.9 in March and 86.0 in August. The mean temperature for the year was 70.4 and the mean relative humidity 83. The total rainfall was 50.12 inches, or 7.47 below the average for the past nine years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 29.981.

Legislation.

The only legislation of general importance passed in 1927 was The Immigration Act (No. 23). This consolidated previous laws and made some amendments. " Immigrants " generally means in the Act all passengers travelling other than first-class and returning residents. Second-class and steerage passengers are not allowed to land without individual permission and are required to produce certificates of health and character. They are also required to deposit £20 as security against their becoming a charge on public or parochial funds. It is competent, however, for the Governor to give exemption from these requirements. Any immigrant or passenger who is undesirable within the meaning of the law is liable under the new Act to deportation at any time within five years after arrival.

General.

The community generally during 1927 was prosperous and contented. There were no local disturbances of any kind.

H. HENNIKER-HEATON,
Colonial Secretary.

1*st July*, 1928.

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Bechuanaland Protectorate

REPORT FOR 1927-28.

(For Reports for 1925-26 and 1926-27, see Nos. 1317 and 1379, respectively (Price 1s. 0d. each).)

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BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1927-28.

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HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL.

Proclamation of British Protectorate.—During the year 1885 Sir Charles Warren, who was in command of an expedition despatched from England to pacify Southern Bechuanaland, where for some time previously hostilities had been proceeding between the Bechuana and Boers from the South African Republic, visited the principal chiefs in Northern Bechuanaland (known as the Bechuanaland Protectorate), namely, Khama, Gasietsiwe, and Sebele, and as a result a British Protectorate was proclaimed over their territories. No further steps were taken until the year 1891, when, by an Order in Council, dated the 9th May, the limits of the Bechuanaland Protectorate were more clearly defined, and the High Commissioner for South Africa was authorised to appoint such officers as might appear to him to be necessary to provide for the

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administration of justice, the raising of revenue, and generally for the peace, order, and good government of all persons within the limits of the Order. Sir Sydney Shippard, the Administrator of Bechuanaland, was appointed Resident Commissioner. An Assistant Commissioner was also appointed for the Southern Protectorate and another for the Northern Protectorate, the laws in force in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope on the 10th June, 1891, being declared in force in the Territory, *mutatis mutandis*, and so far as not inapplicable. Subsequent legislation has been effected by Proclamation of the High Commissioner.

Relations with the British South Africa Company.—For fiscal and other purposes the Protectorate was treated as a portion of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland until the 15th November, 1895, when the latter was annexed to the Cape Colony. In the autumn of that year arrangements were made for the transfer of the administration of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, with the exception of certain reserves for native chiefs, to the British South Africa Company. The country occupied by the Bamalete tribe, and so much of the Bora-Tshidi Barolong country as lies within the limits of the Protectorate, were transferred to the administration of the British South Africa Company, Dr. L. S. Jameson being appointed Resident Commissioner therefor. The Company's police were moved down to a camp in the Protectorate, at Pitsani Potlugo. From that spot, on the 29th December, Dr. Jameson crossed the border of the South African Republic with his police, and marched towards Johannesburg, which was at that time in a state of great unrest. Being defeated by the Boers at Doornkop, he surrendered on the 2nd January, 1896. In consequence of this raid, the administration of the two areas above referred to was transferred to the British Government, by whom the Protectorate, in its entirety, is still governed under the name of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. It includes the Tati District, which is a portion of old Matabeleland conceded in 1887, by Lobengula, to Mr. S. H. Edwards.

Boundaries.—The territory of the Bechuanaland Protectorate is bounded on the south and east by the Union of South Africa, on the north-east by Southern Rhodesia, on the north and on the west by the territory of South West Africa.

It has not been surveyed as a whole, but its area is estimated at 275,000 square miles. Its mean altitude is about 3,300 feet.

In view of the geographical position of that part of the mandated territory of South West Africa east of Longitude 21° E., known as the Caprivi Strip, it was found expedient to provide in 1922 that the latter should be administered as if it were a portion of the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

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The Bechuanaland Protectorate is divided for administrative purposes into the following districts, with a Magistrate at the head of each :—

N'gamiland (Headquarters Maun).
Chobe (Headquarters Kasane).
Ngwato (Headquarters Serowe).
Gaberones (Headquarters Gaberones).
Lobatsi (Headquarters Lobatsi).
Ghanzi (Headquarters Gemsbok Pan).
Francistown (Headquarters Francistown).
Tuli Block (Headquarters Selika).
Kweneng (Headquarters Molepolole).
Ngwaketsi (Headquarters Kanye).
Kgalagadi (Headquarters Lehututu).

In addition the Assistant Resident Commissioner is Chief Magistrate for the Protectorate, and, as such, has all the powers of an Assistant Commissioner or Resident Magistrate throughout the Territory.

CURRENCY.

The coinage legally current in the Bechuanaland Protectorate is declared by Order in Council dated the 23rd January, 1911, to be all British coins and all Transvaal coins, British coins being defined as any coins which under the Coinage Acts, 1870 and 1891 are legal tender in the United Kingdom, and Transvaal coins as any coins which were coined in the Mint established at Pretoria by the Government of the late South African Republic in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 14 of 1891 of that Republic.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The weights and measures in use in the Territory are Imperial.

LANGUAGES.

The principal languages spoken are English and Sechuana.

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I.—GENERAL.

The outstanding event of the year 1927 was the visit of the Right Hon. L. C. M. S. Amery, M.P. (Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs) and Mrs. Amery to the Territory. The Secretary of State's staff included Mr. G. G. Whiskard, C.B., Assistant Secretary to the Dominions Office, Mr. G. Huxley, Secretary to the Publicity Committee, Empire Marketing Board, and Captain W. Brass, M.P., and he was also accompanied by Captain the Hon. B. E. H. Clifford, C.M.G., M.V.O., the Imperial Secretary, representing His Excellency the High Commissioner. The distinguished visitors arrived at Palapye Road from Rhodesia early on the morning of 22nd August where they were met by the Resident Commissioner, the Assistant Resident Commissioner, and the Resident Magistrate of the District. Before leaving Palapye Road for Serowe the Acting Chief and Regent, Tshekedi Khama, was introduced to Mr. Amery in his private coach, after which the Chief left to arrange for the meeting in his Kgotla with the Bamangwato Tribe. The local European residents, headed by Mr. H. C. Weatherilt, O.B.E., and Mr. R. McFarlane, members of the European Advisory Council, were here presented to Mr. and Mrs. Amery.

The party arrived at Serowe at noon, being given an enthusiastic welcome by the Bamangwato Regiments lining the route to the Kgotla.

A luncheon was given in honour of the Secretary of State and his party by the European inhabitants of Serowe.

Following luncheon a visit was paid to the Serowe London Missionary Society Church, built by the Bamangwato under the late Chief Khama, and to Khama's Memorial near the Kgotla.

This concluded the visit and the party returned to Palapye Road, arriving there at sunset.

The visit afforded both Europeans and natives much pleasure apart from the fact that Mr. Amery was the first Colonial Secretary to visit the Bamangwato Reserve.

On the 23rd August, Mr. and Mrs. Amery received at Gaberones Station the local European residents and the Indians trading in the Territory, and then proceeded to the Crown Reserve, three miles distant, where the native chiefs of the Southern Protectorate had assembled to greet the Secretary of State.

The same afternoon at Lobatsi, after Mr. Transfeldt, member of the European Advisory Council, had presented an address to the Secretary of State on behalf of the local residents, to which he briefly replied, Mr. Amery presided at a luncheon, at which 200 guests sat down, given by the Administration of the Territory to inaugurate the new factory of the Bechuanaland Cold Storage Company, Limited, the machinery of which was started by

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Mrs. Amery. On this occasion Mr. Amery dealt with the immediate prospects of the Territory with special reference to the contemplated operations of the Cold Storage Company. He emphasised the importance of raising the water that existed almost everywhere below the surface, which, he said, was only needed to make the Bechuanaland Protectorate one of the finest dairying countries in the world; also the importance of promoting speedier transport, in regard to which the Administration was making experiments. He announced that the Administration were about to undertake a policy of more effective development of the whole territory and indicated some of the respects in which the Mother Country would be prepared to co-operate, but he appealed for a continuance of the whole-hearted support of the European settlers, of which he had already seen much evidence, particularly the good work done by the European Advisory Council. Sir Drummond Chaplin, G.B.E., K.C.M.G., Chairman of the Cold Storage Company, in his reply, touched upon the prospects of an early settlement of the important questions affecting mineral rights in the Territory, which would contribute greatly to the development of the Territory.

At Mafeking the same afternoon, the Secretary of State and Mrs. Amery paid a short visit to the Imperial Reserve, where they met all the Headquarters staff and their wives. It is not too much to say that the distinguished couple have left everywhere a vivid impression of real friendliness and interest.

The European Advisory Council held its Eighth Annual Meeting at Mafeking in March. The Council is representative of seven electoral areas, covering the whole Territory, as follows :—

1. Ghanzi District;
2. Francistown District;
3. Tuli Block District;
4. Ngwato (Bamangwato Reserve), Ngamiland (Batawana Reserve), and Chobe Districts;
5. Gaberones Block together with all the land lying between the Bamalete Reserve and Gaberones Block bounded on the north-west by the Bakwena Reserve and on the east by the eastern boundary of the farm " Crocodile Pools ";
6. Lobatsi District (excluding Barolong Farms but including the farm " Panyani ") and Kgalagadi District;
7. Bamalete, Bakgatla, Bakwena, and Bangwaketsi Reserves and Barolong Farms;

each of which returns one member who must be a qualified voter and have been nominated by not less than five qualified voters, and who holds his seat on the Council for a period of three years. Immediately prior to a new election, a register of qualified voters

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in each area is compiled. Every landowner, leaseholder, fixed property holder, or licensed trader, of a value of not less than £300 (or his duly appointed representative), being a British subject of European descent residing within the Territory, has one vote. Each candidate for election must deposit the sum of £25, which is forfeited should he fail to poll one-fifth of the total number of votes polled by the successful candidate. The Council sits at least once in each year and at any other time at the request of the Resident Commissioner, but three members may suggest to the Resident Commissioner the advisability of calling a meeting at any time, stating their reasons. The Resident Commissioner presides over the sittings of the Council.

The present Members of the Council are :—

H. C. Weatherilt, Esquire, O.B.E., J.P. (Electoral areas Nos. 1 and 3).
R. McFarlane, Esquire, J.P. (Electoral area No. 2).
R. A. Bailey, Esquire, J.P. (Electoral area No. 4).
L. S. Glover, Esquire (Electoral area No. 5).
G. J. F. van Rensburg, Esquire (Electoral area No. 6).
B. I. Vickerman, Esquire (Electoral area No. 7).

A special Meeting of the Council was called by the Resident Commissioner last September.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Native Advisory Council was held at Gaberones in April, 1928.

The Council is normally representative of the tribes of the Southern Protectorate only, namely, the Barolong, the Bakwena, the Bangwaketsi, the Bakgatla, the Bamalete, and the Batlokwa. The Chief of the Bamangwato is, however, always invited to attend, and has occasionally attended the sittings of the Council, but the Batawana tribe in Ngamiland is too far distant for their representation to be practicable. The Council consists of five members (one of whom must be the ruling Chief) elected by each of the six tribes according to their custom, and discusses with the Resident Commissioner all matters affecting native interests which any of its members desires to bring forward, and especially the administration of the Native Fund.

The Native Fund is devoted to purely native purposes, e.g., native education, improvement of native stock, water supply in native reserves, and an annual contribution to the cost of eradication of lung-sickness in cattle. The revenue of the fund is obtained by an annual tax of 5s. on every native liable for hut-tax, except in the case of the Bamangwato and Batawana in Ngamiland, who pay 3s.

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Kalahari Expedition.

At their 1927 Meeting, the European Advisory Council passed the following resolution :—

> "We suggest that a sum of £500 be placed on the Estimates for the purpose of exploring a cattle route to the western border, starting in the neighbourhood of Lephephe and travelling north-west or nearly so and again starting, say, from Ghanzi and travelling south-east with a view to ascertaining the possibilities of a sufficient water supply. As this proposed route would be in Crown Lands practically the whole distance of, say, 200 to 250 miles, it should present the minimum of difficulty."

The country proposed to be explored forms an equilateral triangle, with sides about 200 miles long, entirely devoid of markings, almost in the centre of the map of the Territory; the proposed route almost bisects this triangle. It is indeed unexplored in the sense that no European had travelled through it with the result of a route being established for general use or which might be regarded as safe for man or beast. Many native rumours told of people living around permanent water there. Anderson had crossed its western edge from Ngamiland south-eastwards in the middle of last century, bequeathing to an inquisitive posterity a supposed permanent water marked on some maps as Anderson's Vlei. Others claim to have ventured across it towards the Bakwena Reserve, notably S. McTavish, who in 1911 entered into an agreement with the Administration to perform the journey for a sum of £50 and if successful he was to be given the contract to sink three wells along the route. He is known to have started this hazardous journey in a scotchcart drawn by oxen from Seebigo Pan, 40 miles north-east of Ghanzi, and to have reached the Molepolole-Lehututu road 40 miles from the former place. He reported that he saw no signs of permanent water along the 250 miles travelled, and melon (tsama), and once an opportune thunderstorm, alone kept his oxen alive. He had only a pocket-compass to guide him. He was given the contract to sink the wells, but illness supervened and he cancelled the contract. Although unproductive of substantial results, McTavish's was a notable and a daring performance, and until this year the Administration has been unable to find anyone who would follow his tracks.

Towards the end of 1927, however, Lieutenant Beeching, Sub-Inspector in the Bechuanaland Protectorate Police and Acting Resident Magistrate of the Kgalagadi District, was ordered, as soon as he had collected the bulk of his hut-tax for the year, to make the route desired by the Advisory Council, or, in other words, to go from Lehututu to Ghanzi and from thence to the nearest point on the Rhodesia Railways, looking out for permanent water

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on the way. He arrived at Ghanzi during February, and after some days spent in necessary preparations left that station for Deka or Daka, about 30 miles east-north-east of Ghanzi. With a scotchcart and oxen, five camels, six native policemen, and two Bushman guides, he made his real start into the unknown from Daka in the early morning of the 9th March, travelling south-east. His rate of progress was necessarily slow with oxen, two treks a day averaging together seven hours at two miles an hour, and in thick bush 1½ miles an hour. Rain sometimes held him up, and the dense bush on either bank of the great Okwa river was very troublesome, every foot of the way having to be cut. The Bushman guides were always an anxiety, as each guide will only go to the limit of his hunting grounds, where another guide must be found. This results in a somewhat zigzag course, and Lieutenant Beeching estimates that the route he made is thus capable of being shortened some 20 miles. At one point a fresh guide was not forthcoming until he had waited four days. He eventually reached Kika, or Kikau, 100 miles north-north-west of Molepolole, on the 28th March, and from there sent in his first report and his camels to the wells at Metsematluku, 60 miles west of Molepolole. He had found plenty of water in limestone pans fairly evenly scattered along the route, evidence of abundant large game, many Bushmen armed with bows and arrows, who were placated with tobacco, and a few meagre Bakgalagadi villages. Neither Bakgalagadi nor Bushmen were too friendly, and most of them uncommunicative, particularly as regards the next water, whilst the party got little sleep on the journey, having to trek during the day and guard their animals against lions at night. Two-thirds of the way one ox went sick, and was left with a native. Lieutenant Beeching arrived at Metsematluku on the 4th April, having travelled between 280 and 300 miles from Daka in 23 trekking days.

Thus was established, during the rains at any rate, a practicable cattle route from the valuable Ghanzi grazing lands almost half the distance of the existing route via Lehututu, and cattle have since come safely through. Also the possibility of making it an all-weather and a motor transport route was strongly indicated by the almost continuous limestone formation. But the desideratum of the Advisory Council was not yet attained. It was considered that Mahalapye should be linked up with the new route, so as to provide the shortest possible route to the railway line.

Early in the year the Administration had acquired a Morris six-wheeled lorry, and, after some months' testing in and around Serowe, had decided to send it on an experimental trip across the desert.

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The objects of the expedition were chiefly to locate suitable places for sinking wells along the new route, to ascertain whether it was possible to utilize motor transport for traversing the desert, to report upon the country traversed and the uses to which it might be put, and to test British cars under the worst African conditions.

For the purpose of the expedition a second lorry was lent by the Morris Company and eventually the expedition started from Mahalapye at 2 p.m. on the 20th June.

The party consisted of :

The Imperial Secretary.
Lieutenant Beeching.
Mr. W. Grantham (Morris lorry expert).
Mr. Makin (S.A. Press).
Two chauffeurs.
Native Corporal Hendrik (Interpreter for all desert languages).
Native cook.
Three native constables.

The same day the party reached Shoshong, and there may be said to have taken its leave of civilization. Shoshong, a former capital of the Bamangwato, has interesting associations. Here reigned Khama's heathen father Sekgome, and from here originated, after the latter's deposition, many intrigues against the great Christian Chief. Early next morning the expedition moved on to Lephephe, and at once the limestone formation was everywhere in view. Lephephe was found to be 79 miles from Mahalapye, over a fairly straight track and good hard ground; thence to Sunnyside farm in Ghanzi the distance, allowing for sinuosities in travelling, may be taken as 310 miles. Water was replenished at Lephephe, this being the last known supply. Tsitle was reached after sunset, 21st June, and was left at 7.30 p.m. To economise the water it was decided to travel at night. Captain Clifford discovered that a further advantage lay in the diminution of dust trouble by night, the impalpable desert sand being expanded or diffused in the heat of the day. The lorries rarely boiled at night, so travelling then proved easiest, though it was cold enough to freeze the water from otherwise imperceptible leakages from the water tanks which were revealed by the ice. At 8 a.m. on 22nd June, in 10 hours' travelling from Tsitle they had only covered 23½ miles, in the course of which the lorries averaged 3 miles to the gallon and used 25 gallons of water. Zuwe was reached on 24th June, and at 3.30 a.m. on the 25th Kuke was located in the darkness, after some of the worst going of the trip. A serious mishap to the water supply also occurred. The caterpillar track flapped so much that it knocked off the tap of one of the water tanks, about 15 gallons of water being lost before it was noticed. At Kuke water had been confidently expected, but the last drops in the pan had evaporated and the prospect

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was dismal indeed, the expedition finding itself on a small hill composed of cattle dung and bleached bones, with a background of dirty sand. Press despatches, sent in to Molepolole, spoke of desperate anxiety as to petrol and water lasting until Ghanzi. Moreover, punctures were by this time recognised to be a very serious matter, if only in the way of time lost. They averaged 20 a day—the stumps of dead trees often lie just beneath the sand with points like sharpened pencils. From Kuke, where Beeching's route was picked up, the course was altered to N.W. and the going was good. Kika Pan was soon passed, also dried up, and the natives explained that they slaked their thirst with bulbs (they also pound up the leaves of a certain shrub). Hereabouts the first big game were sighted in the distance, three enormous giraffe. The expedition being short of food, Captain Clifford went ahead to shoot, but instead of game encountered a Bushman carrying an armful of melons (tsama). This man, and his family who soon surrounded him, he interviewed by signs, and learned that he had brought the melons from a place two suns march away, also that, though there was no water, game would be found further on. Gomodimo Pan was reached shortly after midday on 26th June and a very little muddy water found, and this some women were putting into large numbers of ostrich eggs carried in skins on their backs. When they had filled the eggs they buried them in the ground.

These pans are situated in crater-like depressions and, when dry, reveal a limestone bed. Farmers at Ghanzi subsequently explained that, when sinking their wells, they have to dig through this solid limestone for 40 to 60 feet, when a bluish white shale, apparently composed of a mixture of clay and limestone pebbles, is encountered. Through this the water does not penetrate, and after digging into it for 10 to 15 feet a perennial supply of water is obtained. Captain Clifford could hear of no failures.

Chukudu (Tsuguru) Pan was next passed and, shortly afterwards, a shallow valley, which looked as if it marked the former course of a river, having a marked bank on its western side. Then followed an open plain, with sparse stunted scrub, until a very marked rise brought the party to the saucer-like rim of the extensive Kaotwe Pan. Turning north for 5 or 6 miles, a flat treeless plain was crossed and there numbers of hartebeeste, gemsbok, and wildebeeste were seen grazing in the distance. Then dense bush and very heavy sand, through which the lorries pushed slowly for 6 miles before entering the hard limestone bed of the Quale River, along which they ran north-east for about 2 miles, when it curved west and appeared to join the bed of the Okwa River. Two miles farther on, they left the river bed and encountered more thick bush and heavy sand. All through the night they struggled on and at 8 a.m. found themselves once more in the bed of the river, which is serpentine in its course. The natives

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believe that this huge river had its source in the heart of the Kalahari, which recalls "Anderson's Vlei," but the expedition could not stay to explore. Old maps take the source into South-West Africa. This theory is favoured by Captain Clifford and, as the river bed also appears south of Ghanzi, it may be more nearly correct.

It was now the 29th June, and for nearly three days the course took the expedition through open grassy plains, millions of acres of good grazing, which Captain Clifford has described as equal to the best grazing land in South Africa. These are Crown lands.

Dungako Pan was passed at 12.40 a.m. next day, and here it was calculated that the dwindling supply of petrol would probably see them through. None the less, on reaching Van Zyl's cutting, some 26 miles beyond Gore Pan, it was a welcome sight to see duck disporting themselves in the cutting still about three parts full of water, and also, at hand, five drums of petrol sent out from Ghanzi by camel. According to old Corporal Hendrik (who has since passed to happier hunting grounds), Van Zyl hunted elephants hereabouts some 30 or 40 years ago, but he and his son were killed by Bushmen, who pursued a vendetta against the father for having thrashed one of their number. About two-thirds of the way between Gore and Van Zyl's cutting there was found to be a shallow depression, apparently another dry river bed. Sunnyside farm was found to be closed, but after one more night's camping out, Ghanzi Magistracy was reached on 2nd July.

It is worth recording that, neither on Lieutenant Beeching's pioneer trek nor on this journey of the lorries, through the alleged "Kalahari breeding ground" was a single locust seen, nor yet the signs of any.

No large communities of natives were found to exist, or were heard of as existing, in this huge unknown country; permanent water would, of course, render such communities possible. It is more probable that the primitive family group system prevails, as found by Miss D. F. Bleek among the Bushmen of Angola in 1925. Nomad Bushmen hunting with the lion and driving him from his kill, feed on the meat to utter repletion and live on that one feed through days and perhaps weeks of famine, working when required for the Bakgalagadi (probably no longer a pure race but intermarried with the Bushmen). The Bakgalagadi themselves live together in small villages, at intervals going away to serve for a time members of the neighbouring Bechuana tribes, who treat them well and allow them to return to their families at will, taking with them hides and skins to sell and one fine skin as a present to their master. Such might have been the actual relations subsisting between the ancient Israelites and the neighbouring desert tribes of that day, and they seem natural

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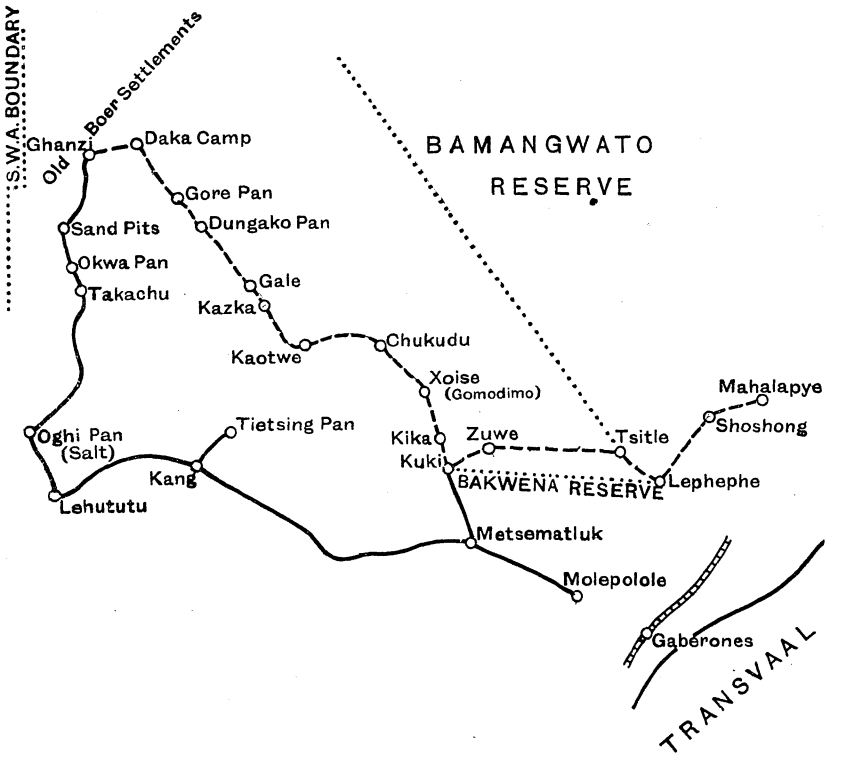
enough when one comes to think of the economic limitations of desert life and the consequent struggle of the desert people for existence. Religious beliefs among the desert tribes would seem to be coloured by what is picked up from the Bechuana in the course of periods of service, but much might yet with advantage be ascertained as to the customs and beliefs that are thus being displaced, especially from the Bushmen, for in no part of the Protectorate can one hope to find the Bushman more closely adhering to his ancient habits of thought and action, and there are few indeed left who can speak his language and gain his confidence.

A rough sketch map of the route from Mahalapye to Ghanzi is here reproduced.



The Kalahari has always been more or less an unknown land to Europeans. Not many years ago the popular belief was that it consisted of a dry desert waste with nothing but sand as far as the eye could reach. That theory, however, has long since been exploded.

Latest information shows that water pans exist in this unexplored country, and that their whereabouts are well known to

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the Bushmen. Moreover, there is reason to believe that somewhere beneath the surface of this desert there is everlasting water to be found.

Among the remaining objects which the expedition was intended to achieve, the most important was to discover a route from Ngamiland to the Zambesi along which cattle might travel without encountering the tse-tse fly, whose bite has no discernible immediate effect but after rain produces the disease of trypanosomiasis in animals. The great cattle trade of Ngamiland and Ghanzi with the Belgian Congo is constantly menaced by the fact that cattle apparently healthy when they leave the Territory reach their destination with the disease upon them. The problem of the tse-tse fly, which in other regions has produced the dreaded sleeping sickness but so far not in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, has perplexed many African Governments, who have adopted various means of fighting it, but none of these methods has been effectively employed in this Territory. So far, the Administration has been unable to do more than seek new routes as the fly advances further east. Obviously this is only a temporary makeshift, but it might tide the trade over until some combative plan which ensures success can be discovered. The wild game, particularly elephants, are believed to carry the fly, but in the Ngamiland and Chobe Districts, where the rarer large game still thrives, preservation and not destruction is the order of the day. The ravages of the fly, however, must be very largely minimised if the small scrub and forest undergrowth, that provide the shade in which these pests lurk and breed, is entirely removed from the margins of the cattle route. Before such a work is undertaken, a route must be selected that is sufficiently provided with grazing and water, and, if necessary, wells will have to be sunk.

Accordingly the expedition, having filled up at Ghanzi with petrol and water, set out on the evening of the 2nd July, on a 500-mile trip northwards. They called on one Dutchman farmer *en route* and Captain Clifford has recorded his unstinted admiration for the cleanliness of the place and the manner in which these people had maintained European standards in so lonely an outpost of civilization. For the most part they passed through open country, with patches of heavy sand, frequent limestone outcrops, and occasional pans. After the spot marked on the map The Kopjes, there was a welcome stretch of flat loamy country through thick bush, and generally the road was good all along the shores of Lake Ngami as far as Totin. Lake Ngami, as they saw it, was a vast expanse of rich, black, alluvial soil, but in recent years the July floods have reached it, and one-third to one-half of its surface has been under water. This part of the Territory is well within native reserve, but here, and in the beds of the feeding rivers or other spillways from the Okovango when they are dry,

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there may be future possibilities of cultivation for export, if only the transport problem can be solved. Cotton and rice leap to the eye as possible crops for which there is abundant demand. There is also the Mokyotse aloe, the fibre of which resembles hemp or jute, and the papyrus plant; both of these flourish locally. At present the transport (ox-wagon) rates are 25s. a 100 pounds to Livingstone and 15s. a 100 pounds to Serowe (the latter route only being practicable during the rains). Reaching Maun, the capital of Ngamiland, on the afternoon of the 6th July, the Imperial Secretary had important interviews with the Resident Magistrate and Mathiba, the Chief of the Batawana, which should be productive of good results, in respect of suppression of the tse-tse, sinking of wells, and means of crossing the flooded rivers and of navigating them.

The expedition left Maun the same evening. The rivers were rising rapidly and the lorries crossed on a raft made of six mekoro (native canoes) lashed together.

Before reaching Kasane, the headquarters of the Chobe District, Captain Clifford investigated the Basubia tribe and found them physically and ethnically diverse from Bushmen. Though small and graceful in appearance, they are dolichocephalic in type like the Bantu. These natives repudiated the suggestion that they were servants to the Batawana.

The expedition arrived at Kasane at 4 p.m. on 10th July and Victoria Falls at 10 a.m. next day. Four miles from the Falls the big end bearings of the Government lorry gave out and it had to be towed in. The going from Ngamiland had been good except for the troublesome Magwikwe sand ridge and the numerous punctures received in the almost ubiquitous Mopane scrub, and the 300 miles from Maun were accomplished in three and three-quarter days. It is all good grazing country, and is also Crown Lands. This route is often taken nowadays by motor-cars, usually without mishap. The new route through the forest from Kasane to the Falls, constructed last April by Lieutenant Ellam in less than six weeks for about £40, is generally considered excellent.

Captain Clifford found Captain Stigand's map, where he had to use it, most accurate.

As to the new cattle route from Ghanzi, the Administration is sending a boring machine to sink wells every 50 miles from Metsematluku to Daka for a start, after which the shorter route from Lephephe to Kika will be prospected with a similar object.

In conclusion, it should be mentioned that, when on 9th July no news whatever of the expedition had been received since they left Kuke on the Bakwena border, the Union Government came to the rescue with an aeroplane as the only practicable means of reaching the party in case they had got stranded. This aeroplane

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was about to leave, fitted with an apparatus for dropping supplies of food and water and for dropping and picking up messages, when news of the expedition's arrival at Victoria Falls came through. There is little doubt that, the spoor of the lorries being very distinct, if necessary this expedient would have been entirely successful, and the Union Defence authorities are heartily congratulated and thanked for their ready enterprise.

Note.—The Imperial Secretary's report, which describes the expedition under his leadership in greater detail, has been published and a limited number of copies may be obtained on application to the Government Secretary's Office, Mafeking. It is also to be published in an abridged form in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society.

Cameron-Cadle Expedition.—Early in August an expedition of scientists from the United States of America consisting of Dr. W. J. Cameron (leader), Dr. C. Ernest Cadle, Professor R. L. Mannen (Geologist), Messrs. F. L. Parrish and Henry Hoder (photographers), with Mr. W. H. Rhodes of Johannesburg (wireless operator) entered the Territory for the purpose of studying Bushman life and other matters of general scientific interest. Dr. Cadle had in 1925 and 1926 spent much time amongst the Bushmen in the mandated territory of South-West Africa. The expedition travelled by road from Mafeking to Serowe in two heavy "Diamond T" motor-trucks, leaving behind their superfluous stores and impedimenta. Although they left another ton and a-half of luggage at Serowe, their lorries were unable to traverse the heavy sand about fifteen miles out and returned after four days. They then travelled to Bulawayo by road, and proceeded to Matetsi about forty miles south of the Victoria Falls. According to Dr. Cameron, the party travelled as far as the Protectorate border from Matetsi, but no farther, contenting themselves with sending for types of Bushmen from within the Territory.

The death, on the 16th June, 1927, at Johannesburg Hospital, of Mr. Myles Williams, Financial Secretary, after 25 years' service, is recorded with deep regret. Mr. Williams was a capable and valued officer whose loss will be much felt. He had a thorough command of Sechuana, and was much respected by the natives. The local Chief wrote, in expressing sorrow at his death, that "We have sustained the loss of a friend we loved so much from his boyhood, and to all he was a just and fair officer."

During the past year the death has also taken place of Sir Ralph Williams, K.C.M.G., a former Resident Commissioner of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, who subsequently held office as Governor of the Windward Islands and Newfoundland.

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As one to whom the recent successful crossing of the Kalahari Desert was very largely due and a notable man in his humble way, it also seems fitting to record here the death from illness while on duty of the aged Corporal Hendrik Boys, on the 11th September, 1928. Hendrik entered the service in February, 1910, and may be described as the doyen of the native Desert Police. Knowing the Bushman and other Desert languages, sagacious, reliable and well liked, he more than once saved the lives of his officer and comrades, and his loss is well-nigh irreparable. The following message sent by him as he was dying is noteworthy : " I am very ill—should I go beyond before I again see one of my officers, you as the Government, my Lords, try and think well of my past work."

II.—FINANCE.

The total revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1928, amounted to £147,911. As compared with the previous year, increases aggregating £20,778 were shown under the heads Customs (£1,513), Licences (£40), Judicial Fines (£286), Income Tax (£17,989), and Miscellaneous (£950), whilst decreases amounting to £4,435 were reflected under the heads Hut Tax (£559), Posts (£1,150), Revenue Stamps (£370), European Poll Tax (£33), Rentals and Transfer Duty (£2,003), and Native Fund Contribution (£320).

The total expenditure amounted to £119,984, which was £11,761 in excess of the amount for the preceding year. The increases were incurred mainly on Police, Administration of Justice, Public Works, Veterinary, and Pensions, while smaller increases were shown under most other Services.

The appended figures furnish the totals of the revenue and expenditure and the accumulated surplus balances for the past five years :

Financial Year.	*Total Revenue.*	*Total Expenditure*	*Surplus Balance.*
	£	£	£
1923–1924	100,234	81,808	26,817
1924–1925	99,576	87,372	39,021
1925–1926	107,345	104,122	42,244
1926–1927	131,568	108,223	65,589
1927–1928	147,911	119,984	93,516

During 1927-1928 a sum of £1,191 was lent to settlers at five per cent. interest, repayment of the capital being spread over a period of five years. Eleven loans were granted for building dipping tanks, two for water-boring, and one was paid to afford relief from a bond at a high rate of interest.

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III.—PRODUCTION.

The natives of the Bechuanaland Protectorate are mainly engaged in cattle-rearing. The distribution, among the various tribes, of pure-bred bulls and cows purchased out of a fund maintained by the natives themselves, and the restriction of cattle exportations to the Union of South Africa to a certain weight of animal, have contributed in different ways to the improvement of native stock. For veterinary reasons, the export of cattle to the Union is further restricted to consignments intended for approved abattoirs and (without restriction as to weight) for export overseas, while to South-West Africa and Southern Rhodesia it is absolutely prohibited. Subject to authorisation from the Inspeçao dos Servicos Veterinarios in Loanda being previously obtained, there is unrestricted export of cattle to Angola.

Cattle may be exported through Northern Rhodesia to the Belgian Congo provided that they are certified by a qualified Veterinary Surgeon as being themselves clean and as coming from an area which has been free from transmittable disease for a period of six months. In the case of Ngamiland or Ghanzi cattle, they must also have travelled to the border of the Territory along a road free from the tsetse-fly and undergo a microscopic test at the border. A quarantine is imposed on the entrance of such cattle into Northern Rhodesia, and, in order to conserve the grazing there, only a limited number is allowed to cross annually. In the case of cattle from the Tati (Francistown) District, export is only allowed of purely Tati cattle, and no cattle may leave the train in Northern Rhodesia. At Sakania, Belgian Congo, a further quarantine is imposed on all cattle entering the Colony.

As a result of all these restrictions, some of which are of recent imposition, the cattle trade is not yet as flourishing as it might be.

An inspection fee of 1s. a beast is levied on all cattle exported from Ngamiland and the Caprivi Strip as a contribution towards the cost of the services rendered in order to satisfy the above-mentioned veterinary restrictions.

The embargo on exportation of cattle from the Caprivi Strip continues.

Prices realised for Protectorate cattle were generally higher than in the previous year, excellent prices being obtained for the better bred Tuli Block cattle.

The feature of the hides and skins export during the year ended March last was a phenomenal rise in price of both, in the case of hides to double what is was in the previous year. Local merchants are unable to account for this. The weight of hides exported decreased from 2,283,506 lb. to 1,506,635 lb., but the value increased from £41,660 to £66,870. The export of sheep and goat skins decreased in weight from 91,875 lb. to 69,374 lb., but the value only from £3,599 to £3,556.

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The export of skins of wild animals and karosses continues to show an upward tendency. The increase now to be recorded is from £12,840 in 1926-27 to £16,814. Molepolole is the chief centre of this trade, the great bulk of the skins being exported to Great Britain and America, chiefly to America. About one-tenth of the skins are sewn into karosses locally by skilled natives.

There is a considerable export of firewood, i.e., dead trees, which brought into the Territory last year £3,970. The wood goes mostly to Kimberley, Mafeking, and the Lichtenburg diamond diggings. The native chiefs are disposed, however, to restrict this traffic, lest too great a demand should have the result of suddenly depriving their people of a continuous source of income.

The only minerals at present produced are gold and silver in the Tati (Francistown) District: 2,063 oz. of gold and 157 oz. of silver, valued at £8,671, as against 3,807 oz. of gold and 418 oz. of silver, valued at £16,020, in the previous year. The Monarch Mine, which was the principal mine in the District, closed down on 31st May, 1927, but development operations are expected to be resumed in the near future.

What is reported upon by experts in Great Britain as a superior class of asbestos has been discovered in the Bangwaketsi Reserve, and the concessionnaire is assured that if bulk is equal to sample its worth to an asbestos manufacturer may be estimated at from £60 to £80 per ton. This opinion is confirmed by a Johannesburg mining engineer who has viewed the property, and an agreement has been entered into with a Johannesburg syndicate giving them an option to purchase if, after the area has been worked for a certain period, the find should prove to be of sufficient value. The concessionnaire has decided to spend a considerable sum of money on this trial working. Production in any quantity would seem to depend upon whether zones of true serpentine will be found underlying the serpentized dolomite from which these specimens were gathered. At present indications are favourable over a very large area.

According to the same concessionnaire, galena has been found in the same Reserve at twenty different points in Buckreefs, scattered over the large felsite area extending from near Moshanen to the Bangwaketse-Bamelete border, but at no point does the deposit appear to extend to any depth. The test of the specimen sent to the Imperial Institute is still awaited.

Iron ore, entirely haematite in its several forms, is also said to be found over a very large area from a few miles west of Kanye to a point 30 miles distant, and within that area may be found very large and rich deposits of this ore.

Ivory to the value of £639 was exported.

Except in the extreme south and north, where there was a good harvest, and in the Kweneng District (Molepolole), where about

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two-thirds of the plantings were successful, the staple crops of maize and Kaffir corn were a complete failure, owing to scanty or unseasonable rains. The natives only grow for their own needs, and even the European settlers consider it hardly worth while to raise these particular crops for export.

The farmer in the Tati District, who had previously been so successful with his experimental crops of cotton, made a further venture, but, owing to 10 weeks' drought after the January rains, his crop was a complete failure. No one else planted cotton during the year under review.

Tobacco.

Experimental crops of the Turkish and heavy Virginian pipe varieties were sown in the Francistown District, and appear to have established the fact that this crop can stand up to drought conditions. Rainfall in the southern portion of the Francistown District, from the 18th January to the 18th March, amounted to no more than .77 inch, and, while other crops perished, these varieties of tobacco yielded such encouraging results that the Tati Company intend to put it down over a big acreage in the coming season. The soil chosen was sandy with underlying granite. Samples of the tobacco grown have obtained satisfactory reports in South Africa and overseas. Unfortunately there is much over-production of tobacco in the world to-day, notably in the adjoining Colony of Southern Rhodesia, but if co-operation could be brought about with a view to controlling prices, the Bechuanaland Protectorate could evidently take its share of the returns. Otherwise the Territory can only hope to succeed in this line of production by growing only the best classes of tobacco, as indeed seems practicable, and finding a market for it, which may not be an easy matter. Satisfactory experimental crops were also grown in the Tuli Block.

No locusts were reported in the Bechuanaland Protectorate during the year.

The manufacture of what are known as "native curios" is an industry that in South Africa might be said to be peculiar to the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Animals, birds, &c., of the country are carved by the natives in a soft wood (the monyelemyele tree) and decorated by burning with a hot iron. These are much sought after by travellers passing through the Territory, the natives swarming around the trains at any stopping place for the purpose of selling them. Recently this industry, and those of kaross and pottery manufacture by the natives, were saved from practical extinction, caused partly by apprehensions rightly entertained by the railway authorities from the standpoint of public safety, and partly by the threatened absorption of the trade by storekeepers holding licences from the railways. Timely intervention by the Administration resulted in certain reasonable conditions being

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accepted by the railways on the one hand, and by the natives on the other; and this native trade, so attractive to railway passengers and lucrative to the natives, is to be allowed to continue subject, however, to the good behaviour of the sellers on the railway line.

Dairy Produce.

The dairy industry has made great progress in the year under review.

On the 31st March, 1928, there were 465 creameries and cheese factories registered, being 120 more than at the end of the previous year. Of these, native creameries increased from 54 to 119.

The type of building has improved, and in most cases far exceeds minimum requirements. The native is showing a praiseworthy spirit of emulation, each trying to go one better than his predecessor in registration.

Native milk-sellers, i.e., those who milk under European supervision and sell their milk for separation, have increased from 135 to 186.

The Dairy Expert has devoted much time to instruction of natives.

Generally, he has also found time to give instruction in cheese-making with demonstrations.

He has also advocated the production of ensilage, the growth of spineless cactus and the gathering of hay, etc., with some success, and he will persevere in this direction.

Butter-fat production.

	1927–28.		*1926–27.*
	lb.		lb.
European	240,962	First grade	307,531
Native	16,623		4,252
Total ...	257,585	Total ...	311,783
European	61,637	Second grade	48,523
Native	18,623		8,608
Total ...	80,260	Total ...	57,131
European	18,603	Third grade	40,650
Native	8,253		33,316
Total ...	26,856	Total ...	73,966
European	Nil	Below grade	Nil
Native	24		6,156
European	321,202	Total, Butter-fat ...	396,704
Native	43,523		52,332
Total ...	364,725	Total ...	449,036

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Cheese production (European).

	1927–28. lb.	1926–27. lb.
Cheddar	90,549	113,553
Gouda	23,838	21,058
Total ...	114,387	134,611

Farm butter.

1927–28.	1926–27.
5,415 lb.	2,081 lb.

(NOTE.—Butter comsumed by the producer is not included. Butter manufactured at Lobatsi and kept in cold storage there is also omitted, but the butter-fat used in its manufacture is included under its heading).

Value of Dairy Products.

	1927–28. lb.	1927–28. £	1926–27. lb.	1926–27. £
European.				
Butter-fat...	321,202	24,796	396,704	23,878
Cheese	114,387	7,149	134,611	6,730
Farm butter	5,415	541	2,081	176
		£32,486		£30,784
Native.				
Butter-fat...	43,523	3,212	52,332	2,657
		£35,698		£33,441

The quality of the cream produced in the Territory continues to show steady improvement, and now compares very favourably with that produced in neighbouring territories. As a result, better prices have been realised, and the value of the total output shows an increase over last year, notwithstanding that, owing to the drought conditions that prevailed during the greater part of the year, the quantity decreased.

A move towards amalgamation of the various cheese-making interests was made but was unsuccessful. The Dairy Expert nevertheless did his utmost to interest Rhodesian and Congo buyers in Protectorate cheese, and succeeded so well that the present production could be absorbed by those markets many times over.

The expert organized a large Protectorate cheese exhibit for the Bulawayo and Salisbury Shows. Since the last report was compiled the following prizes have been gained at these Shows with either the Cheddar or Gouda variety manufactured in the Territory: at Bulawayo (1927), four Firsts, one Second; at Salisbury (1927), best exhibit of 500 lb. suitable for export, three Seconds; at Bulawayo (1928), best exhibit of cheese, best exhibit of soft cheese, two Firsts, five Seconds. The Right Honourable L. S. Amery, M.P., Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, was present at the Salisbury Show, and commented very favouably on the Protectorate exhibits. Several successes have also been gained by Protectorate cheese-makers at some of the smaller Rhodesian shows.

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Chief Exports for last 5 years.

	1923–24.	£	*1924–25.*	£	*1925–26.*	£	*1926–27.*	£	*1927–28.*	£
Kaffir Corn ...	5,379 bags	3,348	6,306 bags	4,438	6,403 bags	2,815	3,989 bags	4,122	1,659 bags	1,121
Mealies	703 „	484	41 „	40	11,859 „	5,654	2,888 „	1,546	—	—
Cheese	68,752 lb.	3,467	59,790 lb.	2,844	687 lb.	31	134,611 lb.	6,730	114,387 lb.	7,149
Cattle	18,147 head	71,155	24,481 head	86,256	33,563 head	144,686	31,889 head	159,445	30,060 head	137,569
Sheep and Goats	7,693 „	5,457	16,981 „	12,009	11,921 „	8,457	13,364 „	11,359	16,407 „	12,800
Pigs	44 „	51	—	—	612 „	2,180	1,674 „	3,348	1,410 „	2,215
Hides	467,280 lb.	12,206	77,649 lb.	19,947	918,665 lb.	27,025	2,283,506 lb.	41,660	1,506,635 lb.	66,870
Skins (Sheep and Goats).	61,279 „	4,192	45,000 „	2,171	97,549 „	2,743	91,875 „	3,599	69,374 „	3,556
Skins and Karosses (wild animals).	13,316 No.	5,583	47,324 No.	12,820	68,192 No.	10,456	55,643 No.	12,840	72,990 No.	16,814
Butter - fat and Cream.	166,160 lb.	14,304	338,401 lb.	20,360	340,966 lb.	22,082	449,036 lb.	26,535	364,725 lb.	28,008
Firewood ...	5,570 tons	2,792	2,597 tons	2,554	4,013 tons	3,194	6,971 tons	5,773	4,838 tons	3,970
Gold	3,040 oz.	12,771	1,372 oz.	5,762	3,672 oz.	15,432	3,807 oz.	15,979	2,063 oz.	8,656

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

There is practically no internal trade in the Territory. Generally speaking, traders mostly have dealings with firms in the Union or Rhodesia. In a few isolated instances there are direct importations from Great Britain, Belgium, India, and elsewhere overseas, but, in the absence of Customs statistics, no particulars can be given. The export trade almost wholly comprises cattle, small stock and their by-products, and as it is governed by more or less arbitrary conditions, it has been more conveniently dealt with under the heading of Production as heretofore. To what was stated there the following paragraph may be added here :—

The cattle trade in the Tuli Block would be more lucrative if sales of stock (other than pedigree stock) for breeding purposes in the Transvaal could be allowed by the Veterinary authorities. Such an embargo has for long prevailed against the entry of such cattle into the Southern Protectorate, but this has been removed since the end of the period nominally covered by this Report. This should improve the prospects of the Tuli settlers, who have always taken great pains to improve their cattle, in spite of the absence of a market for breeding stocks. It will be realised from what is stated elsewhere that the Ghanzi District is perhaps the finest cattle rearing country in the Territory and that the cattle trade there is severely restricted as regards outlet, a difficulty which the Administration has now resolutely set itself to remove. It is the only industry upon which the European residents can depend for a livelihood, and it is satisfactory to record that, in spite of existing drawbacks, 2,650 head of cattle were purchased from the local farmers and that the prices realised were satisfactory.

The business done at the traders' stores has suffered a considerable set-back during the year ended 31st March, 1928, so far as importation of general merchandise is concerned. The decrease was from £274,414 to £235,492. This may be explained by the fact that the natives have had to spend their money on the purchase of food instead of on other goods, owing to the three bad crop seasons in succession. It has been ascertained that over £20,000 went in this way in the Bamangwato Reserve alone. For the same reason, probably, importations of cattle and other live stock declined from £28,278 to £18,552. On the other hand, vehicles improved from £6,361 to £8,468, though this is doubtless due to increased use of motor-cars. An increase of £25,177 in cereals brought into the Territory is natural in the circumstances explained above. The total imports were £309,836 in 1927-28 against £331,200 in the previous year, and the exports £293,851 against £297,056.

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V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There are only three money-order, savings banks, and telegraph offices in the Territory, viz., at Lobatsi, Serowe, and Francistown. Besides these there are four postal-order and telegraph agencies, all on the railway line, and fourteen postal-order agencies. The postal work at all of these is controlled on behalf of the Administration by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa; the telegraph work by the Postmaster-General of Southern Rhodesia, to which Government the telegraph lines along the railway line belong, as well as a telegraph telephone line from Serowe to Macloutsie and Fort Tuli. Lobatsi has recently been connected with the trunk telephone system of the Union, the telephone lines in that vicinity being controlled by the Postmaster-General at Pretoria.

During the year 1927-28 the issues of postal and money orders totalled 13,780 with a value of £9,243 as against 16,239 valued at £9,282 during 1926-27.

In 1927-28, 4,276 orders were paid out to the value of £3,985, as against 4,080 valued at £3,486 in 1926-27.

The rate of postage on letters posted within the Territory for delivery therein or for delivery in the Union of South Africa, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, and the Province of Mozambique is 1d. for each ounce or fraction thereof; to Great Britain and North Ireland and other British Possessions 2d. for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Agricultural post services at low rates have been instituted with the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

The main line of the Rhodesia Railways, Limited, 400 miles in length, runs through the eastern portion of the Territory. This is the only line of railway.

At present the roads from railway stations and sidings to the principal villages serve for motor transport. Of these the best of any considerable length are from Palapye Road to Serowe, constructed by the Serowe Automobile Club, and from Gaberones to Molepolole, constructed by the Administration. Having regard to the huge size of the Territory and its exiguous resources, the Administration cannot as yet attempt more than rendering safe for motor traffic as many as possible of the existing tracks through the bush along the principal routes. The Bamangwato Chief is rendering useful assistance in his Reserve, and by the end of the present year it is anticipated that there will be a tolerably good road for motor traffic all the way from the north to the south of the Territory.

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

The number of cases adjudicated upon by officials of the Administration during the year 1927-28 was 1,090, as against 724 in 1926-27 and 554 in 1925-26.

There were 16 cases of homicide: of these, 5 were acquitted, 1 death sentence was commuted to 2 years' imprisonment with hard labour, 9 were sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour, and 1 was handed over to the Union Authorities for trial.

There were 54 cases of other offences against the person, in 47 of which conviction followed; 175 offences against property, with 134 convictions; and 845 prosecutions for other offences, in which 691 convictions followed.

Police.

Proclamation No. 41 of 1927 superseded the C.M.R. Act previously in force in the Territory, and made provision for the maintenance and discipline of the Police Force in the Bechuanaland Protectorate; and High Commissioner's Notice No. 99 of 1927 set forth the General Regulations governing the Force.

The existing Police Establishment is as follows:—

1 Inspector.
6 Sub-Inspectors.
24 European Non-Commissioned Officers.
50 Mounted Native Police.
215 Dismounted Native Police.

Provision was made in the Estimates for the year 1928-29 for facilities for the training of Native Police at Gaberones, involving alterations and additions to the existing camp at that place. A qualified Native Drill Instructor has been appointed (an ex-Sergeant-Major of the Barotse Native Police) and training operations have been commenced at Headquarters, pending the completion of the buildings at Gaberones, with satisfactory results.

Prisons.

Legislation of some importance in respect of prisons has also been promulgated during the year. Proclamation No. 21 of 1927 amended the existing law relating to prisons, and provided for the general government and good management thereof, and for the maintenance of discipline therein, while High Commissioner's Notice No. 57 of 1927 set forth the detailed Regulations which will, in future, apply to the prisons of the Territory, in place of the Cape Regulations which were previously in force.

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VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

In 1927-28 a Post Office was erected at Lobatsi at a cost of £650, this being the first Government building of the kind in the Territory. Quarters for the Government Veterinary Officer at Lobatsi were also built.

A somewhat extensive building programme was provided for under the Vote "Capital Works Expenditure" for the year 1928-29. The major works being the new hospitals at Serowe and Lobatsi, costing £4,000 and £6,000 respectively, and quarters for various Government officials. This is the first time that public works have been met out of surplus balances, instead of out of current revenue.

At Serowe the hospital work is now proceeding satisfactorily, and the walls have been built up to window level. The Medical Officer's quarters and the outhouses and mortuary are well in hand. The foundation stone of the hospital was laid on the 1st November by Seretse, the young Chief of the Bamangwato, in the presence of the Resident Commissioner, who delivered the following message from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales :—

> "I am very pleased to be associated with this building, which owes its inception to the hospitality shown me by the late Chief Sekgoma, on the occasion of my visit to Serowe in 1925. I trust the Bamangwato will be always as mindful of their sick as they are generous to their guests."

The stone is inscribed :—

SEKGOMA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Erected with the aid of contributions made by

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES

and

CHIEF SEKGOMA KHAMA.

This stone was laid and this building dedicated to the welfare of his father's people by the Chief's infant son and heir.

SERETSE.

1st November, 1928.

The work is being carried out departmentally, under the direct supervision of the Superintending Clerk of Works.

With regard to the other buildings under the supervision of this official, the foundations have been completed for a Post Office and for the Dairy Expert and Inspector's quarters at Mahalapye, for the Government Veterinary Officer's quarters at Palapye Road, and for the quarters of the Assistant Resident Magistrate at Serowe.

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The question of adapting standard types of houses for Government officials is under consideration, and several type plans have been supplied by the Union Public Works Department, with a view to their adaptation to the conditions of the Territory.

Water Boring.—A 6-inch Jumper Drill has been purchased and a Drill Foreman engaged. The machine has been tested and will shortly undertake boring operations in the desert with a view to opening roads and cattle routes.

In October last a Government Engineer was appointed to take charge of a Public Works Department, which is now being organized.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health conditions in the Bechuanaland Protectorate during the year ended 31st March, 1928, have been, as regards widespread prevalence of disease, the worst for the past ten years. During the winter of 1927, which ushered in a series of severe outbreaks of fever, following upon cold snaps, the incidence of disease was little less favourable than what is usual at that date. But with the opening and advance of summer, there was a sudden rise in the prevalence of fever, which continued to increase until, during January, February, and March, it had assumed epidemic form and prostrated thousands of the native population.

The epidemic was chiefly confined to the southern portions of the Protectorate—especially the alluvial levels—the valleys and low-lying granitic areas, abutting on the main watersheds—Molepolole, Mochudi, Gaberones, Ramoutsa, and Gopane.

Associated with this extensive prevalence of malaria were the invariable complications of influenza and bronchial catarrhs—bronchitis, acute pneumonia, rheumatic affections, enteritis, and other common sequelae. The total returns of disease, which are the heaviest on record (close upon 20,000 cases) have been swelled to these unusual proportions by the record of many ailments, concurrent and otherwise, which the increased medical activities in connection with the epidemic brought under observation.

Free Government supplies of quinine were issued to the areas most severely affected. And this, together with measures of supervision of distribution and energetic medical attention, helped to mitigate the effects of the disease. A fortunate and remarkable feature of the epidemic was the low rate of mortality. At Mochudi, where over a thousand cases of malaria were seen, there were only two deaths, and these of indirect or remote connection. At Gaberones, Molepolole, Ramoutsa, and Gopane, where the numbers seen were still greater, the death rate was equally low in proportion.

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The epidemic outbreaks were largely determined by the conditions prevailing over the Southern Protectorate throughout the summer, that is, heavy rains at long intervals, over the impervious, low-lying and easily waterlogged areas; the constitutional lack of stamina of the people on the low-lying lands as against those on the higher levels—which is a long observed and constant factor—invariably shows up under unusual meteorological conditions, such as heavy rains or severe cold snaps.

Of other epidemic and infectious diseases the returns for the year show :—

Anthrax, 15 cases—1 death; dysentery, infantile or undefined diarrhoeas, 627 cases; influenza, 257 cases; tuberculosis, 142 cases; puerperal fever, 2 cases; leprosy, 16 cases; enteric fever, 8 cases—1 death; tetanus, 2 cases—1 death; cerebro-spinal meningitis, 5 cases; scarlet fever, 1 case: measles, 13 cases; and a few cases of whooping cough, mumps, and chicken pox. The tubercular cases generally gave a history connecting the origin of the disease with working on the Rand mines, whilst the unusual outbreaks of enteric fever were clearly traced to the Lichtenburg diamond diggings.

There has been an increase in the number of syphilitics treated, the returns for the various districts being as follows :—

Francistown	93
Serowe	128
Gaberones, Molepolole, and Ramoutsa	555
Mochudi	162
Maun	240
Ghanzi	9

whilst Kanye, Moshupa, and Manyana alone show 3,595 attendances.

During the month of November, water was struck on the site selected for the Serowe Hospital. Subsequent tests have proved the supply to be ample, and as the bedrock is pure sandstone, the supply is not likely to vary or be affected by drought. The work of clearing the site and fixing the position of the hospital and accessory buildings has since been put in hand, the hospital plans reviewed and adopted in final form, and it is intended that the new hospital shall be finished, equipped, and staffed during the next financial year.

The position with regard to the extension of plague and the proximity to the Protectorate borders of suspected and proved infection gave cause for increased vigilance, and at the end of the financial year measures were under consideration for taking practical steps, during the coming summer, towards conducting a rodent-infected survey of the Protectorate along the boundaries of possible approach.

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IX.—EDUCATION.

During the year 1927-28 there were in the Bechuanaland Protectorate 10 schools for European children, attended by approximately 263 children, one coloured school at Francistown comprising 22 children, and 86 native schools with an attendance of approximately 6,522 pupils.

Most of the schools, both European and native, are under the control of School Committees, generally presided over by the Magistrate of the District, who pays periodical visits of inspection.

The European schools received Government grants-in-aid amounting to £1,790.

Education grants for primary education are available for the children of European residents, and a sum of £880 was spent in this connection.

Commencing on 1st April, 1928, special bursaries are also awarded, under certain specified conditions, to the children of European residents of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, who have passed Standard VI in the Territory, and are capable of taking advantage of secondary education at schools outside its boundaries, either in the Union or in Rhodesia.

The native schools are mostly under the aegis of Missionary Societies, and, with the exception of the salary of the Principal of the National School at Mochudi, which is paid out of general revenue, they are mainly financed from the Native Fund, from which the amount of £4,253 has been expended on education generally and on the upkeep of school buildings, etc.

In addition to their contribution to the Native Fund, the Bamangwato have almost entirely defrayed the expenses of their school at Serowe, which is a fine one with a good attendance.

An annual grant of £300 (£150 from the Government and £150 from the Native Fund) is made to the Tiger Kloof Institution for the training of native teachers, and grants of £300 from the general revenue of the territory and of £90 from the Native Fund have been made to the London Missionary Society towards education on behalf of the natives. A grant of £20 is also made annually to the native school at Andara.

Schools for natives were opened during the year at Kasika, Manyana, Mebede, Ntshe, Dikwana (Kgoro), and Kokon, in the Chobe, Francistown, and Ngwaketsi Districts respectively.

A native Agricultural Demonstrator has recently been engaged, at a salary of £96 per annum, to give instruction in methods of agriculture to natives of the schools of the Chobe District.

Owing to pressure of work in Basutoland, and pending the proposed appointment of an Inspector of Education for the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, there has been no

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general inspection of the schools of the Territory this year. At the special request, however, of the European School Committee at Francistown, the Principal of the National School at Mochudi carried out an inspection and reported favourably upon its work.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEYS.

Primarily, all the lands in the Protectorate belonged to the several native tribes to be found within its border, except that sovereignty over what is generally known as the Tati Concession, or Tati District, was claimed by Chief Khama of the Bamangwato and by the Matabele Chief Lobengula. In 1895, on behalf of their respective tribes, the Chiefs Khama, Sebele and Bathoen abandoned certain territory. By Order in Council dated the 16th May, 1904, the territory thus abandoned was declared Crown Lands and vested in His Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa, who was empowered to make grants or leases thereof on such terms and conditions as he might think fit, subject to the directions of the Secretary of State.

An Order in Council passed on the 10th January, 1910, added to the Crown Lands above mentioned all other land in the Bechuanaland Protectorate elsewhere than in the Tati District, with the exception of (1) land included in any native reserve duly set apart by Proclamation, or the subject of any grant duly made by or on behalf of His Majesty, and (2) the 41 farms known as "the Barolong Farms," and vested such lands in the High Commissioner, subject to the provisions of the Order in Council of the 16th May, 1904.

The doubts as to the ownership of the lands in the Tati District were resolved by an Order in Council passed on the 4th May, 1911, which vested these lands in His Majesty, and empowered the High Commissioner to grant them to the Tati Concessions, Limited, in full ownership. This grant was effected by Proclamation No. 2 of 1911, including the right to all minerals and precious stones under the land.

The boundaries of the 41 Barolong Farms (which comprise all the land reserved to the Barolong Tribe within the Protectorate) were defined by Proclamation No. 1 of 1896. The boundaries of the Bamangwato, Batawana, Bakgatla, Bakwena, and Bangwaketse Tribes were defined by Proclamation No. 9 of 1899, as amended by Proclamations Nos. 14 of 1907 and 55 of 1908 in respect of the Bakwena, and of the Bamalete Tribe by Proclamation No. 28 of 1909.

With the exception of five farms that had already been granted to pioneers by native chiefs and certain land retained for Government purposes, the Crown land along the eastern border of the Protectorate was granted to the British South Africa Company by Proclamations Nos. 4, 12, and 13 of 1905.

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Certain settlers to whom the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes had, under the Charter of the British South Africa Company, granted tracts of land in the Ghanzi District were in 1898 and 1899 confirmed in their holdings by the High Commissioner on certain conditions including the payment of an annual quitrent at the rate of £5 per thousand morgen (a morgen=2.1165 English acres).

Apart from trading sites, which usually do not exceed 50 yards by 50 yards in extent, 10 farms of 1,000 morgen each and one of 5,000 morgen have been leased by the Government to European settlers at an annual rental of £5 and £25 respectively. These leases are renewable annually. As a rule, preference is given to persons of European descent who are already domiciled within the Territory.

Under an agreement between the Administration and the Imperial Cold Storage and Supply Company, Limited, signed in June, 1925, 250,000 morgen of Crown Land on the northern bank of the Molopo River have been placed at the disposal of the Company free of charge for 25 years, in consideration of the Company having agreed to erect cold storage and refrigerating works within the Territory and to purchase a minimum number of 10,000 Protectorate cattle annually for use in such works.

The Crown Lands remaining available for disposal comprise about 108,000 square miles.

The British South Africa Company and the Tati Company, Limited, have disposed of to European settlers a considerable quantity of the land placed at their disposal by the above-mentioned Proclamations.

No surveys have been made of any land within the Territory, except where such land has been granted to private corporations or individuals.

There are no irrigation works on any large scale within the Territory. Apart from the rivers Marico, Limpopo, Zambesi, and Chobe and apart from the Okovango marshes and their outlets, there are practically no surface waters, except in the rainy season. The Rhodesian Railways, Limited, have constructed several dams in connection with the working of the railway line, viz. :—

	Capacity in gallons.
Lobatsi	15,000,000
Metsimaswaana (Notwani Siding)	45,000,000
Mileage 1197	5,000,000
Palapye	15,000,000
Tsessebe (Inchwe River)	12,000,000
Pilane	9,000,000

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Water-boring and well-sinking operations undertaken in the neighbourhood of the railway line and at Serowe by the Administration, farmers, and others have generally yielded good results. In March last, the services of the Chief Boring Superintendent of the Union (Mr. F. E. Leeson) were lent to the Administration by the Union Government, and much useful advice towards this end was obtained from him. A tour through the Tati District of the Southern Rhodesian Boring Superintendent (Mr. C. A. Anderson) was arranged with his Government in May, and his advice was given to the farmers there and to the Tati Company. Chief Isang Pilane of the Bakgatla tribe has been particularly enterprising in boring for water in his Reserve. After the £500 appropriated from the Native Fund had been expended, he devoted £1,200 of tribal money to the purpose. Out of 16 holes sunk, seven yielded excellent results at no great depth.

Several attempts have been made by the Administration to open up the underground waters to the west in the Kalahari Desert. These have so far yielded only meagre results, but the Administration have not been in a position to offer very attractive terms, taking into consideration the geographical and other physical difficulties of the case. When water is struck, it is sometimes too brackish. The opinion, however, has often been expressed that by deep boring plentiful supplies of good water will be found, and the waterless and useless tract of land now known as the Kalahari Desert may yet be transformed into one of the finest ranching countries in the world. As is stated elsewhere, the Administration are about to send a drilling machine of their own into the Desert.

XI.—LABOUR.

Labour conditions, as understood in Europe and America, have scarcely as yet developed in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Such little labour as is required by European firms and residents is regulated by the old Masters and Servants Acts of the Cape Colony as in force in the Territory. For native tribal purposes, from time immemorial, necessary labour has been performed by "regiments," through which all, high and low, must pass and which must obey the Chief's orders. There is nothing of servitude about it; it is a matter of self-help and utility and tribal discipline. Since 1925, whenever it has become necessary to make use of such regiments for Government purposes, payment is made to the individuals for their labour.

No native labour is imported into the Territory.

Labour for service on the Witwatersrand gold mines, the Natal coal mines, and the diamond mines of South-West Africa is recruited under the conditions imposed by the Native Labour Proclamation No. 45 of 1907 as subsequently amended, which amply protects the liberty of the labourer. Only in the case of South

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West Africa may labour be engaged from the tropical regions lying north of Latitude 22° S. Many natives find their own way from the Southern Protectorate to the adjacent diamond diggings.

XII.—VETERINARY.

Staff Changes.—Two permanent Veterinary Officers were added to the staff during the year, making a total of five Veterinary Surgeons working under the Chief Veterinary Officer, one of whom holds a temporary appointment.

Lung-sickness Campaign.

Bamangwato Reserve.—At the beginning of the period under review there were 10 quarantines in the Bamangwato Reserve, with a total number of 10,684 quarantined cattle under the supervision of the Government Veterinary Officer at Palapye Road.

This number was gradually reduced, and all animals were liberated and quarantines raised during the year, the last animal destroyed being at Maunatala on 21st December, 1927.

This outbreak, which occurred at Dikgatlon in the Maunatala district and where 14 animals were destroyed, was the only serious one encountered during the period under review.

Botletle River.—The position in this area, which was controlled by the Government Veterinary Officer, Rakops, was also markedly improved during the year, which opened with three quarantine areas and included 2,116 animals, and ended with one quarantine area containing 117 animals.

Andara.—One outbreak of the disease occurred near Mohembo, on the southern boundary of the western end of the Caprivi Strip, and was due to a " Lunger " being left over from infection introduced from either the South-West Protectorate or Angola during the previous year.

The Government Veterinary Officer stationed at Maun adopted prompt measures and slaughtered the infected herds, comprising 230 head of cattle, spread over seven cattle posts. The cattle which were slaughtered and found free from the disease on post-mortem were replaced by the Administration by similar cattle, an arrangement which was more acceptable to the native owners, who were largely dependent on milk for their food, than a money payment as compensation.

Anthrax.

Next in importance on the list of scheduled animal diseases in the Bechuanaland Protectorate is anthrax. This disease is on the increase and is largely due to the native custom of skinning the carcase and eating the meat of all cattle that die.

A considerable amount of propaganda work has been done in connection with preventive measures which should be adopted in

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the infected areas of the Native Reserves, and it is gratifying to observe that the native demand for anthrax vaccine shows a marked increase and that the natives are more inclined to carry out the inoculation themselves.

Quarter Evil.

Quarter Evil has exacted the usual toll amongst young cattle, and similar remarks to those made regarding anthrax apply to this disease.

Liver Disease of Calves.

Fortunately this disease has been of lesser frequency, and of a milder type than in previous years.

Trypanosomiasis.

This disease is most prevalent in the Khamokuni country and other recognized " fly-belts " of Ngamiland.

Although the tsetse-fly belts are fairly well defined, the infected areas expand and contract as climatic conditions are favourable or detrimental to the spread of the fly.

Wherever serious losses have occurred, it was generally due to carelessness in herding, by which animals were permitted to graze too close to the fly belt.

The intrajugular injection of potassium antimony tartrate had continued to give saisfactory results, but we have found that the injections have to be continued weekly for several months before a permanent cure is effected.

Snotziekte.

For the first time in the history of the Bechuanaland Protectorate this disease, of which little is known to-day, has to be recorded. It has been observed at five centres in the Tuli Block.

It is caused by close contact with wildebeeste, and probably transmitted by a bloodsucking insect from infected wildebeeste to healthy cattle.

The disease is fatal in 97 per cent. of cases.

Scab.

In December, 1926, the operations of the scab clauses of the Diseases of Stock Regulations, 1926 were, at the request of the natives themselves, extended to the Bakgatla Reserve. With the assistance of a Government advance, seven sheep-dipping tanks have been constructed, and a campaign for the eradication of scab in this Reserve inaugurated.

During March all small stock adjoining the Cape Province border, from Ramathlabama to approximately one hundred miles west, were twice dipped under Government supervision.

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Exports.

The following are the number of cattle exported during the period under review :—

To the Johannesburg Abattoir	11,964
To Durban for export overseas	10,050
To the Belgian Congo	6,510
To Portuguese Angola	1,536
Total ...	30,060

The following small stock was exported :—

To Rhodesia	13,732
To the Union via Ramathlabama Quarantine Camp	2,675
Total ...	16,407

1,410 pigs were exported to the Union and a few to Rhodesia.

Imports.

The following animals were imported into the Territory during the year :—

Cattle	635
Horses	216
Mules	8
Pigs	118
Donkeys	367
Sheep and goats	2,318

Vaccines.

The following vaccines were consumed in the Territory during the year :—

	Doses.
Anthrax Vaccine	45,485
Quarter Evil Vaccine	9,500
Blue Tongue Vaccine	200
Horse Sickness Serum	18
Contagious Abortion Vaccine	50

The new scheme for the eradication of lung-sickness, by which the " Lunger " will be eliminated, will shortly be brought into force.

An area lying to the east of the railway line between Palapye Road and Mahalapye, roughly 20 miles by 10, has been fenced in and subdivided into three camps, and will be used for the reception of in-contact cattle, where they will be treated and grazed until it becomes a business proposition to dispose of them for slaughter purposes.

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Fencing work is now completed, while an adequate water supply for each camp has been struck. All that remains to be done is to install the necessary power-plant for raising the water and constructing storage reservoirs, drinking troughs, etc., so that the new scheme should be inaugurated during the coming year.

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Ngamiland Floods, 1926-1927.

Report by the Resident Magistrate, Ngamiland, dated 4th April, 1928.

The floods during 1926-27 fell short of expectations and registered two feet less at Andara than in the former year 1925-26.

Heavy rains reported from Angola were responsible for an early flood which commenced in the latter end of December, 1926. The country, however, was in such a dry state that large absorption probably took place within the Ngamiland Territory.

For this reason the floods took a considerable time to reach the Lake, and it was not until May, 1927, that the water reached the Boro River.

The Thamalakan at Maun reached its highest level on the 1st August, 1927, when it registered 3 feet 5½ inches. The water began to drop on the 11th August.

The rainfall during the period under review was the lowest since the year 1912-1913, and registered 10.78, that of the latter period being 9.9.

During August, 1927, I visited Lake N'gami by motor-boat from Maun via the Botletle River.

I found a considerable quantity of water from the Tsau Drift extending westwards, and the channel which runs into the Lake from Toten shown on Captain Stigand's map was running very strongly. There was, however, less water in the Lake than there was in the previous season, and during September the water began to subside.

C. L. O'B. DUTTON,
Government Secretary.

23*rd November*, 1928.

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LEEWARD ISLANDS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928-29.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

The Leeward Islands, so called in contrast to the Windward Islands, which are more exposed to the North-East Trade, the prevailing wind in the West Indies, form the most northerly group of the Lesser Antilles.

The Leeward Islands, comprising the Presidencies of Antigua (with its dependencies Barbuda and Redonda), Montserrat, St. Christopher (commonly known as St. Kitts) and Nevis (including Anguilla), Dominica, and the Virgin Islands, were constituted a single Federal Colony by an Act passed in the Imperial Parliament in the Session of 1871, 34 & 35 Vict., cap 107. The total area of the Colony is 704 square miles.

The island of Sombrero was added to the Colony by Order in Council under the Colonial Boundaries Act on the 10th August, 1904.

The islands were discovered by Columbus on his second voyage in 1493, and became British during the 17th century. They were all colonized from St. Kitts, as centre, all included in the Carlisle grant, and possessed a common Legislature as far back as the reign of William and Mary.

English is spoken in all the islands, but some of the natives speak it in a very corrupt form. In Dominica, patois is spoken by the natives.

The usual currency is British silver and copper. Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) Ltd. and the Royal Bank of Canada have branches in Antigua, St. Kitts, and Dominica, and the latter Bank has a branch in Montserrat. In Nevis and the Virgin Islands there are no banks.

Antigua.

Antigua is situated in W. long. 61° 45′, and N. lat. 17° 6′. It is about 54 miles in circumference, and its area is 108 square miles.

The island was discovered by Columbus in 1493, who named it after a church in Seville, called Santa Maria La Antigua. It was first inhabited by a few English from St. Kitts in 1632. In 1663 Charles II made a formal grant of the island to Lord Willoughby, who sent out a large number of colonists. After an interval of French occupation, it was declared a British possession by the Treaty of Breda, 1666. There are no rivers and few springs in the island, and consequently it is exposed to frequent droughts. There are no forests.

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I.—GENERAL.

Leeward Islands.

By "The Leeward Islands Act, 1871" one Executive and one Legislative Council, under one Governor, were constituted for the six (now five) Presidencies. The Legislative Council now consists of ten official and ten elected members. Three elected members are chosen by the unofficial members of the Legislative Council of Antigua, two by those of the Legislative Council of Dominica, three by those of the Legislative Council of St. Kitts and Nevis, and one by those of the Legislative Council of Montserrat. They must be and continue members of their respective island councils. As there is no Legislative Council in the Virgin Islands, one member is appointed by the Governor to represent that Presidency under "The Leeward Islands Act, 1871, Amendment Act, 1924." The official members are the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Federal Treasurer, the Administrators of St. Kitts-Nevis and Dominica, and the Commissioners of Montserrat and the Virgin Islands and such other person holding office under the Government of the Colony of the Leeward Islands as the Governor with the approval of the Secretary of State may appoint. (Vide L.I. Act No. 6 of 1923).

The Legislative Council has concurrent legislative powers with the local legislatures on certain subjects specified in the Act such as matters of property, mercantile and criminal law, the law relating to status, the maintenance of a general police force and a common convict establishment, quarantine, postal and telegraph affairs, currency, audit, weights and measures, education and the care of lunatics, all matters relating to immigration, copyright and patents, and its own constitution and procedure. Any island legislature is, in addition, competent to declare other matters to be within the competency of the general legislature. Any island enactment on such subjects is void if repugnant to enactment of the general legislature, or may at any time be repealed or altered by an enactment of the general legislature.

The Council meets at least once a year, at a place notified by proclamation, and no Council lasts more than three years. The session usually lasts for about one week.

The expenses of the federal establishments are voted by the Council, and apportioned among the Presidencies.

The Council has power to alter its constitution by an ordinary Act, to be reserved for the King's pleasure, and the King has power, by Order in Council, at any time to include any other West Indian

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Island in the federation, upon joint addresses from the Legislative Body of such island, and from the Council, on such terms and conditions in each case as are in the addresses expressed. This power has not actually been exercised and the inclusion in the Colony of Sombrero, which had no legislative body, was effected as above mentioned under a different Act.

Antigua.

On the 22nd March, 1898, the Legislative Council of Antigua which was previously partly elected and partly nominated by the Governor, passed an Act abrogating itself and substituting the Crown Colony system. The new Council consists of sixteen members, eight official and eight non-official, all nominated by the Governor under Royal Letters Patent. The Governor presides and he has an original and a casting vote. The duration of the Council is three years.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the Revenue and Expenditure of the various Presidencies of the Colony for the five financial years, 1924–25 to 1928–29 :—

Revenue.

	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.	1928–29
	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua	78,983	81,671	81,283	93,436	97,903
St. Kitts Nevis	88,095	90,405	88,103	94,161	101,567
Dominica	48,154	61,623	87,833	68,815	92,445
Montserrat...	17,168	21,371	22,688	22,426	30,330
Virgin Islands	7,872	12,532	9,486	9,734	9,120
	240,272	267,602	289,393	288,572	331,365

Expenditure.

	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.	1928–29.
	£	£	£	£	£
Antigua	85,244	79,004	80,736	83,149	101,331
St. Kitts Nevis	95,510	88,888	86,418	93,113	104,692
Dominica	55,483	62,511	62,395	80,715	80,517
Montserrat...	24,053	21,039	21,140	19,986	32,278
Virgin Islands	9,110	17,419	8,348	7,240	9,487
	269,400	268,861	259,037	284,203	328,305

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ANTIGUA.

At the 1st April, 1928, a surplus of £4,149 was brought forward.

The following table shows in comparative form the Revenue collected during the years 1927–28 and 1928–29 :—

	1927–28.	1928–29.
1. Customs—		
Import Duties ...	56,929	55,646
Export Duties ...	6,214	5,617
2. Tonnage and Harbour Dues	2,265	1,818
3. Licences, Taxes, etc. ...	8,919	10,243
3a. Municipal Rates and Taxes	3,624	3,759
4. Fees of Court or Office, etc.	7,701	8,689
5. Post Office and Telephone	6,947	8,022
6. Rents	312	421
7. Interest	271	450
8. Miscellaneous	253	154
9. Sales of Lands ...	—	240
	£93,435	£95,059

Besides the above local revenue the following grants and gifts were received :—

	£
Imperial Grant in aid to Hurricane Damage ...	1,000
Gift from Mr. R. Bryson for erection of a pier at Fort James.	500
Grant from Mr. T. B. Macaulay for erection of a ward at the Central Lunatic Asylum, etc., etc.	1,346
The receipts for the year thus totalled	97,903

The causes of the increases over 1927–28 were under :—

Head 3.—Licences, etc., £1,324—Larger collection from Income Tax.

Head 4.—Fees of Court, etc., £988—Hospital Fees £250, Steam Transport £130, Hurricane Insurance £666.

Head 5.—Post Office, £1,075—Larger sales of postage and revenue stamps due to new varieties being placed on sale.

The decreases were under :—

Head 1.—Customs, £1,880—Less trade both in the Imports and Exports.

Head 2.—Tonnage, etc., £449—Abolition of landing dues during 1927–28.

The expenditure during 1928–29 was £101,331 as against £83,148 for 1927–28.

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This large difference was chiefly accounted for by the following items of increased expenditure :—

	£
Head 2.—Pensions, etc.	872
Head 13.—Hospitals, etc.	1,225
Head 22.—Miscellaneous	1,716
Head 25.—Public Works Recurrent	1,565
Head 26.—Extraordinary	6,348
Head 26.— Do. from gifts	2,330
Head 29.—Hurricane Damage	2,378

The new buildings and works carried out during the year were :—

Women's Wards at the Central Lunatic Asylum, Public Swimming Bath, Buildings at the Leper Home, Purchase of House as Colonial Secretary's Residence, new pipe line for Water Service, etc.

The surplus carried forward at 31st March, 1929, was £721.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the end of the year was £145,100 against which the investments held on behalf of the Sinking Fund amounted to £92,543.

Reserve Fund.

Investments amounting to £12,136 were held by the Crown Agents at the 31st March, 1929.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agricultural.

Sugar.—The year 1928 was on the whole a favourable one although the severe drought which lasted from December, 1927, until the end of February together with drought again in the months of April to September considerably reduced the 1928 crop and exerted a very unfavourable influence on the canes planted for reaping in 1929. The export of sugar (grey crystals) amounted, however, to 18,906 tons, valued at approximately £245,780. Little muscovado was produced during 1928, only one factory operating. The quantities of molasses and fancy syrup exported for the period in question were :—

Vacuum Pan Molasses	529,800 gallons.
Fancy syrup	43,500 ,,

The Antigua Sugar Factory had a very successful year. The output of sugar was 17,088 tons, which sold at £14 13*s.* 1*d.* per ton. The most striking feature of the factory's work during 1928 was the extraordinary high yield of sugar obtained from the canes, viz :— 13.10 per cent. or 7.63 tons of cane per ton of sugar against the average of 11 per cent. or 9.09 tons cane per ton of sugar.

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The output of sugar in Antigua is closely correlated with weather conditions. The following summary of the sugar exports for the period 1924–1928 exhibits considerable fluctuations attributable almost entirely to variations in rainfall during the growing season.

Sugar Exports, 1924–1928.

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Sugar	7,081	16,530	11,466	22,269	18,906
	gals.	gals.	gals.	gals.	gals.
Vacuum Pan molasses ...	359,720	128,000	382,836	715,377	529,800
Syrup Muscovado molasses	—	—	29,548	36,454	43,500

Cotton.—The acreage from which the 1928 cotton crop was reaped amounted to 248 acres. The crop was badly attacked by the Pink Boll worm and the return was small, only 17,700 lb. of lint cotton, valued at £1,770 being exported. 45,850 lb. of cotton seed, valued at £110, was exported to other Presidencies of the Leeward Islands.

During September there was a severe hurricane which destroyed most of the cotton planted for the 1929 crop so that in most districts replanting was necessary in September or October. The acreage finally planted was 225 acres. There was a remarkable freedom from Pink Boll worm and excellent promise of a large crop in 1929.

Onions.—The onion crop was again a small one, only 1,650 lb. being exported.

Limes.—The following lime products were exported during 1928 :

		Valued at
Green limes	49 brls.	£22
Raw lime juice	840 gals.	£42
Concentrated lime juice ...	... 2,350 gals.	£437
Lime oil	108 gals.	£1,215

As a result of the decrease in the Dominica lime crops since the advent of wither tip and red root diseases and of the very high prices now being obtained for lime oil considerable interest has been displayed in this industry and it seems probable that the area under limes will be increased considerably in the near future.

Coconuts.—Many of the coconut plantations suffered severely in the 1928 hurricane : this is all the more unfortunate as during 1926 and 1927 they had been slowly recovering from the effects of several dry years.

The young plants distributed free to peasants through the generosity of Mr. Macaulay (see 1927 Report, page 21) are doing fairly well notwithstanding the long drought experienced.

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Minor Agricultural Products.

The minor products exported include :—

	£
Hides and skins to the value of	297
Tamarinds ,, ,, ...	611
Hardwood ,, ,, ...	60
Turtle shell ,, ,, ...	93

With the initiation of the new steamship service between Canada and the West Indies interest has been shown in the growing of vegetables for the Canadian winter market and two planters have cultivated trial plots of tomatoes and cucumbers under Government guarantees against loss. The produce is being shipped by the Government with a view to ascertaining the possibilities of developing the vegetable industry under Antigua conditions.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Imports and Exports, Antigua.

The following table gives the value of the trade and the principal countries with which the trade was carried on :—

	1927.		1928.	
	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Imports.*	*Exports.*
United Kingdom	91,957	101,748	83,513	202,450
Canada	53,882	274,249	55,038	47,923
Other British Possessions	27,310	6,223	22,267	6,641
United States of America	78,999	5,035	71,659	2,086
Other Foreign Countries	12,270	2	13,687	—
	264,418	387,257	246,164	259,100

The tonnage and value of the sugar included in the above exports were :—

	Tons.	*Value.*
		£
1927	22,269	361,854
1928	18,906	245,788

Shipping.

The tonnage of the vessels entered and cleared during the past two years is given below :—

	1927.		1928.	
	Entered.	*Cleared.*	*Entered.*	*Cleared.*
British ...	381,829	381,829	404,658	404,658
Foreign ...	80,163	80,163	77,343	77,343

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Tariff Changes.

Boy Scouts' Uniforms and Equipment declared free of Import Duty (S.R. & O. 4/28).

Lime.—Import Duty altered to 15 per cent. full rate, 10 per cent. preferential rate ad valorem (S.R. & O. 14/28).

Quinine declared free of Import Duty (S.R. & O. 21/28).

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The following steamship lines call at Antigua :—

The Canadian National Steamships from Halifax, N.S., to Bermuda, St. Kitts, Nevis, Antigua, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and Demerara, and return to St. John, N.B., calling at all the islands mentioned.

Furness Withy & Co. Ltd. (Furness Bermuda Line) from New York to St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Lucia, Barbados, and Trinidad, and return via the same ports to New York.

The Ocean Dominion Line from New York to St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. Kitts, Antigua, Guadeloupe, Dominica, Martinique, St. Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, Grenada, St. Vincent, Dominica, New York.

The Ocean Dominion Steamship Corporation from Montreal and Halifax to Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, Demerara and return to Montreal via Trinidad and Barbados.

A cargo steamer from London (Harrison Line) proceeds direct to Antigua and St. Kitts every two months, and a passenger ship of this line or of the Elders and Fyffes Line will call at Antigua, sailing direct to or from England if a sufficient number of passengers offers. Normally passengers travelling between England and the Leeward Islands travel direct between Barbados and England by the Elders and Fyffes Line, or Harrison Line, or the Royal Dutch West India Line, etc., and between Barbados and the Leeward Islands by the Canadian National Steamships Line or by the Furness Bermuda Line. Passengers may also travel to or from England via New York or Canada by the lines mentioned above, but in practice the route via Barbados is usually adopted for passenger traffic for Europe.

Railways.

There are two railways in Antigua, one of 30 miles constructed and owned by the Antigua Sugar Factory Ltd., and the other of 8 miles constructed by the Bendals (Antigua) Sugar Factory and

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owned by the South Western Estates Ltd. These railways are used to convey canes to the factories and in the case of the Antigua Sugar Factory the sugar is conveyed from the Factory to the Wharf. There are no passenger lines.

Roads.

There are over 100 miles of first class roads in Antigua. These roads are maintained by the Government, and having regard to the comparatively small amount available for their maintenance, they are kept in fairly good condition.

Postal.

The Postal Administration of the Colony is vested in the Governor in Federal Executive Council. Mails with Great Britain are exchanged via New York, and via Barbados, and direct with Canada, the United States and the British West Indies.

The rates of postage are as follows :—

Inland Letters.—1*d.* for the first 2 oz., ½*d.* per additional 2 oz. Post Cards, ½*d.*

British Empire and United States.—Letters, 1½*d.* for the first 1 oz., 1*d.* per additional oz. Post Cards, 1*d.*

Other Places.—Letters, 2½*d.* for the first oz., 1½*d.* per additional oz. Post Cards, 1*d.*

Printed matter, ½*d.* per 2 oz. to all places.

Parcels are despatched by parcels post with Great Britain via Barbados, or Canada, or New York (limit of weight, 22lb.), and direct with Canada (limit of weight, 15 lb.), the United States (limit of weight, 22 lb.), and British West Indies (limit of weight, 22 lb.).

Imperial Postal Orders are issued and paid in the Colony and Money Orders are exchanged direct with Great Britain, Canada, the United States and the British West Indies.

Cables.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by means of wireless and cable. There are wireless stations in Antigua, St. Kitts, Dominica and Montserrat. Telegrams for the Virgin Islands are transmitted via St. Thomas.

Telephones.

A telephone system throughout the island is maintained by the Government. The Central Exchange is in St. John's and there are sub-offices at Parham and All Saints.

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Prisoners sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment are sent to the Common Prison of the Leeward Islands, in Antigua, and immediately before the expiration of their sentences are returned to the Presidencies from which they were committed.

One hundred and thirty-nine prisoners (75 males and 64 females) were admitted during the year. The highest number of prisoners in custody at any one time during the year was 66 (48 males and 18 females), the lowest was 41 (39 males and 2 females). The expenditure on the Central Prison was £2,050 15*s.* 9*d.*; the receipts, £219 9*s.* 6*d.*

The daily average number of prisoners was 53, and is the lowest on record, with the exception of the year 1908 when it was 51. The cost of the maintenance of each prisoner was £34 11*s.* 1*d.*

There were two deaths in the prison; one from pulmonary tuberculosis and the other from the execution of the death sentence.

Accommodation of the prison :—

Males—			
Separate cells	... ...	72 to hold	72
Association cells	... ...	7 ,,	35
Infirmary ward	... ...	1 ,,	9
	Total for males		116
Females—			
Separate cells	... ...	20 to hold	20
Association cells	... ...	3 ,,	9
Infirmary ward	... ...	1 ,,	3
	Total for females		32

Comparative table of Criminal Statistics for 1927 and 1928 :—

	1927.	1928.
Cases reported to the Police ...	6,650	7,483
Number of cases brought before the Magisterial Courts.	16,173	15,740
Summary convictions	10,036	9,790
Indictments in the Superior Courts	81	62
Convictions in the Superior Courts	35	27

St. John's Training School.

The St. John's Training School was established under the provisions of the Leeward Islands Act, No. 4, of 1891, for the reformation, education, and training of boys under 18 years of age.

On the 1st April, 1928, there were 12 boys at the school. During the year four boys were received. One boy was discharged during

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the year, leaving 15 boys in the school on the 31st March, 1929. The daily average was 13. The boys regularly attended the Anglican and Roman Catholic Church services, respectively, on Sunday mornings, and in addition, the Anglican boys attended at the Cathedral, for religious instruction, on Sunday afternoons.

The boys received the customary instruction from the Schoolmaster; the school hours being from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily, except on Saturdays and Sundays.

The staff consists of the Superintendent, the Schoolmaster, and two junior officers.

The expenditure was £332 5*s.* 0*d.*, the cost per head to Antigua being £25 11*s.* 2*d.* The health of the school was good. The boys were employed in agriculture and garden work in addition to the ordinary work of the school.

Police.

The actual strength of the Leeward Islands Police Force on the 31st December, 1928, was 6 officers and 142 non-commissioned officers and men. The authorised establishment, as provided for in the Colonial Estimates for the different Presidencies, is 7 officers and 147 non-commissioned officers and men.

Colonel-Commandant A. Mudge, C.B., C.M.G., Inspector-General West India Local Forces, inspected the Local Forces, including the Leeward Islands Police Force, during the year, and his report was satisfactory.

The health of all ranks during the year was, on the whole, satisfactory.

The general peace of the Colony was undisturbed during the year. There were no strikes or labour troubles calling for police interference.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Antigua.

The more important Public Works completed or nearly completed during the year were:—

1. A new Poor House styled "The Fiennes Institute," comprising—

   2 Main wards to hold 40 beds each,
   2 Infirmary wards to hold 20 beds each,
   Master's Quarters,
   Nurses' Quarters,
   Dining Hall.

   Kitchen, Laundry work shed, together with latrines and baths and kitchens for Master's and Nurses' Quarters, and also two large store rooms, in all 17 buildings.

2. The reconstruction of the Leper Home at Rat Island, now called "The Citadel."

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3. The erection of two wards at the Lunatic Asylum out of Mr. T. B. Macaulay's gift.
4. The erection of bathing huts, etc., at Fort James.
5. New Kerosene Warehouse.
6. Concrete room for Court Records at Court House.
7. School latrines at Green Bay.
8. Water supply line to Green Bay.
9. Duplicating main pipe line to City (section done).

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Presidency has not been as good in 1928 as it was last year. During the first quarter of the year, malaria was prevalent in all the Medical Districts. A Committee was appointed to enquire into and deal with the question of combating this disease. Special Inspectors were appointed to investigate and deal with the breeding places of mosquitoes. Quinine was distributed in the Country Districts free of charge. As compared with 1927, statistics show that there were fewer cases of malaria between the months of August and December, 1928, than in the corresponding period of the previous year, the figures being 594 cases in 1927 and 243 in 1928. As a result of the hurricane which passed over Antigua on the 12th September, 1928, Dysentery, Influenza, and Whooping Cough became very prevalent during the last three months of the year. Some fish (*Gambusia Affinis*) were imported from the United States of America and placed in some of the permanent ponds, which will be used as nurseries if the fish become successfully acclimatised.

No quarantinable disease was recorded in the year under review.

Vital Statistics.

The estimated population on the 31st December, 1928, was 30,444. The total number of births during the year was 1,005. The birth rate was 33.01 per thousand. The total number of deaths during the year was 956. The death rate was 31.4 per thousand.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 280 deaths of children under 5 years of age, exclusive of still-births, the death rate being 297.87 per thousand. The high percentage of infantile mortality is chiefly due to intestinal diseases such as dysentery, and there are a fair number of congenital syphilitics who die in the first two years.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There is a Superintendent of Midwives, who has under her charge 23 District Nurses stationed in the various villages throughout the island. These nurses, in addition to midwifery, render first aid and

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do dressings under the directions of the District Medical Officers. These nurses are supplied with quinine for free distribution in the villages. There is a Day Nursery in St. John's, which is visited three times each week by the Superintendent of Midwives.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Elementary.

The number of elementary schools in the Colony during the year was 107, distributed as follows:—

Presidency.	*Government.*	*State-aided.*	*Total.*
1. Antigua	19	2	21
2. St. Kitts	16	2	18
Nevis	10	—	10
Anguilla	5	—	5
3. Dominica	26	4	30
4. Montserrat	—	13	13
5. Virgin Islands	—	10	10
Totals ...	76	31	107

The numbers enrolled and in average attendance were:—

Whole Colony.	1927–28.	1928–29.
Number on roll	24,832	25,014
Average attendance ...	15,947	16,079

The total expenditure in the primary schools, exclusive of salaries of the departmental officers and of establishment charges, was £20,918 2*s*. 0½*d*. against £17,673 13*s*. 1*d*. in the previous year.

Secondary.

The following is a list of the secondary schools in the Colony with their respective grants or cost (in the case of Government schools):—

School.	*Grant-in-Aid.*	*Cost (Government School).*
	£	£
1. Antigua Grammar School	630	—
2. Antigua Girls' High School ...	200	—
3. Dominica Grammar School ...	—	731
4. St. Kitts Nevis Grammar School ...	—	1,070
5. Excelsior School, Nevis	50	—
6. Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial School, Antigua.	50	—
7. Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, Antigua.	240	—
8. Montserrat Grammar School ...	—	695
9. Montserrat Girls' School	100	—

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A Scholarship of £150 a year for three years, tenable at a University to be approved by the Governor, is awarded on the results of the Cambridge School Certificate Examination. The Scholarship is open to both boys and girls under 19 years of age.

Note.—From the 1st April, 1929, the value of this Scholarship has been increased to £200 a year, and the period extended to five years, if necessary.

The primary schools in Antigua, Dominica and St. Kitts-Nevis are all under direct Government control, and are managed by a Sub-Inspector of Schools in each Presidency.

In Montserrat and the Virgin Islands they are, with one exception, denominational, and are managed by the clergy of the various denominations, under the general control of the Education Boards. The schools are examined annually by the Inspector of Schools, and grants are awarded on the results of this examination. The pupil-teacher system is in vogue, the period of service being three years. Studentships are awarded to specially selected candidates, at the conclusion of their pupil teachership, for two years to complete their training as assistant teachers. Those for girls are held at the Spring Gardens Female Teachers' Training College, Antigua, and those for boys at the Rawle Training Institute, Codrington College, Barbados.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

(Including Geological Survey).

No surveys were carried out in the Presidency during the year.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigrant labour in the Presidency. The inhabitants supply all the labour required for Agricultural and other purposes.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

Leeward Islands.

Nine Acts were passed by the General Legislative Council during the year 1928, and of these the most important were :—

No. 3 of 1928, entitled " An Act to amend the law with respect to local Naturalization."

No. 6 of 1928, entitled " An Act to amend further the law relating to pensions."

No. 7 of 1928, entitled " An Act to establish a Real Representative and to amend the Title by Registration Act, 1886."

No. 8 of 1928, entitled " An Act to amend the Law relating to Friendly Societies."

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Antigua.

Nineteen Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council of Antigua during the year 1928, and of these the most important were :—

No. 7 of 1928, entitled " An Ordinance to amend the Harbour Launches Ordinance, 1919."

No. 8 of 1928, entitled " An Ordinance to make provision for the protection against lead poisoning of persons employed in painting buildings."

No. 11 of 1928, entitled " An Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1926."

No. 16 of 1928, entitled " An Ordinance to amend the Lead Paint (Protection against Poisoning) Ordinance, 1928.

No. 19 of 1928, entitled " An Ordinance to provide for the licensing and regulation of motor vehicles plying for hire, and the licensing of the drivers thereof."

PRESIDENCY OF ST. KITTS-NEVIS.

GEOGRAPHICAL.

The Presidency consists of the islands of St. Christopher (St. Kitts), Nevis, and Anguilla. They form a total area of 153 square miles. They lie between latitude 19° and 17° north and longitude 63° and 62° west ; being about 60 miles west of Antigua and about 500 miles north of Trinidad. They are distant some 3,600 miles from England, and 1,680 miles from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

HISTORICAL.

St. Kitts, " the Mother Colony " of the West Indies, was in 1623 colonized by Sir Thomas Warner, who subsequently despatched branch settlements to other West Indian islands. It was for some time afterwards divided between the English and the French, but since the Treaty of Versailles in 1783 has been wholly British. In 1782 occurred the historic siege of Brimstone Hill, " the Gibraltar of the West Indies," by the French, and though it ultimately yielded " with all the honours of war " its prolonged and gallant resistance held back half the French supporting fleet from joining the other half, and consequently enabled Rodney's victory which saved the West Indies. Up till 1671 the islands of St. Kitts, Nevis, Barbados and Montserrat were governed from St. Kitts, but in that year Nevis became the seat of government, and at the same time Barbados was separated from the group, which then became known as " the Leeward Caribee Islands."

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In 1816, St. Kitts, Nevis, Anguilla and the Virgin Islands were formed into a separate Government, but in 1832 they were rejoined to the other part of the Colony, but placed under a separate Lieutenant Governor. In 1871 all parts of the Leeward Islands Colony were united into a Federation, and the office of "Lieutenant Governor" of St. Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla was changed to "Administrator" of the same. The form of constitution of a Crown Colony is still, however, retained and the Administrator is assisted by an Executive Council; and the laws of the Presidency are made by a Legislative Council. There are 5 local official and 4 unofficial members of the Executive Council; and 7 official and 7 unofficial members of the Legislative Council, the Administrator being President and having a casting vote. The three islands are rich in history, from the time of the Caribs who were in possession when Columbus discovered St. Kitts in 1493 to the middle of the 19th century when the Brimstone Hill Fortress was evacuated to send the troops to the Crimea, and the names of Rodney, Hood, Nelson (who was married at Nevis), "Pocohontas" Smith (who discovered the hot baths at Nevis), Hamilton (a son of Nevis who drafted the American Constitution), constantly occurred in the despatches and records, many of which have through former neglect decayed beyond repair. An effort is now being made to save the remainder.

I. GENERAL.

The outstanding event of the year was the severe hurricane which, on 12th September, struck all three islands of the Presidency in varying degree. Many large buildings, both public and private, were damaged, while 1,556 labourers' and peasants' cottages in St. Kitts, 1,618 in Nevis, and a few in Anguilla, were either damaged or totally destroyed. The reconstruction of the cottages was assisted to the extent of £12,800 from the central relief fund of the Colony provided by generous subscribers from the United Kingdom and overseas, while £1,500 was the Presidency's share of the Imperial Grant towards the expenditure of repairing the damage to Government property. Many new public works and improvements had been either completed or under construction before the hurricane, and these were fortunately but little affected by it. Among them were the large new storage reservoir above Basseterre, the Children's Ward at the Cunningham Hospital and a wide concrete staircase to the main buildings, modern waiting rooms and lavatories at the end of the new Basseterre west pier; the model village settlement, called St. Johnston village, on Government lands at La Guerite; and a hot water system and water-flush closets at the Leper Hospital.

The poorer quarter of Basseterre has been transformed by the cutting of six new streets through it, admitting light, ventilation, order, and cleanliness, while communal baths and water closets have been installed at appropriate places.

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The wooden store shed for Government cotton and agricultural produce, and the wooden laboratory at the Grammar School, having been demolished by the hurricane have been re-erected in concrete; and the Pogson Hospital and the Crêche at Sandy Point have, for the same reason, had to be entirely reconstructed.

II. FINANCE.

Revenue.

The revenue for the financial year 1928–29, estimated at £93,310 is expected to reach £95,200, which, with the Presidency's proportion (£1,500) of the Imperial Grant of £5,000 for repairs to Government property damaged by the hurricane of September 1928, will bring the total revenue on 31st March 1929 to £96,700. Excesses in amounts expected to be collected for Import duties £2,000; Income Tax £2,000; Government Cotton Farm receipts, Stamp duties and Electric Light Current account for the increase in revenue, while Export duty and Sale of Postage stamps have fallen £1,500 and £500 respectively below the original estimate. The net revenue will exceed that of 1927–28 by £1,040 and that of 1923–24 by £2,972. Revenue for the past five years was as follows :—

1923–24	£93,228.
1924–25	£88,095.
1925–26	£90,405.
1926–27	£88,103.
1927–28	£94,160.

There has been no change in the method of raising revenue and no alteration in the rate of taxation in 1928.

Expenditure.

The Estimate of Expenditure for 1928–29 was £92,856. Supplementary estimates during the year will amount to approximately £10,000 after deducting savings on sundry heads of the original Estimates, the expenditure for the current financial year will amount to £101,667. This includes the following works, the expenditure on which was not foreseen when the Estimates were passed :—

	£
Electric Light, to supplement loan of £10,000, and to complete system of lighting town of Basseterre.	2,500
Water Reservoir, Basseterre, to complete	1,500
Opening up of slum area in Basseterre (part of total of £3,000 to be spent).	1,560
Cottages for discharged inmates of Leper Home ...	125
Water supply, Brick-kiln, Nevis	100
Water supply, Cotton Ground and Jessups	350
Repairing hurricane damage (of which £1,500 was reimbursed by the Imperial Government).	4,040

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Expenditure will exceed that of 1927–28 by £8,554, and that of 1923–24 by £8,972. Expenditure for the past five years was as follows :—

1923–24	£92,695.
1924–25	£95,509.
1925–26	£88,888.
1926–27	£86,418.
1927–28	£93,113.

SURPLUS.

	£
The year opened with a surplus of	4,966
Revenue for 1928–29 will be approximately... ...	95,200
including Imperial Grant-in-aid of	1,500
	£101,666

As it is not improbable that Expenditure for 1928–29 might exceed this amount, there will be no surplus funds on 31st March, 1929.

RESERVE.

The Reserve Fund, invested in England, was £10,750 on 31st December last, with a market value on that date of £12,070. It is proposed to sell out £1,750 of the Reserve to meet the deficit caused by hurricane expenditure.

LOAN.

The sum of £10,000 raised locally under the provisions of Ordinance No. 12 of 1927 for the installation of an Electricity Supply System for the Town of Basseterre was totally expended in 1928, the streets being lit in April. The following is a full statement of the Loan position of the Presidency on 31st December, 1928, showing the operation of the Sinking Funds :—

STATEMENT OF FUNDED PUBLIC DEBT OR LOANS BORROWED FOR FIXED PERIODS OUTSTANDING ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1927, AND OF THE ACCUMULATED SINKING FUNDS AT THE SAME DATE.

Description of Loan.	*Legal Authority.*	*Am't.*	*Rate of Interest.*	*Sinking Funds.*			*Date or period of Redemption.*	*Actual due date.*	*Rate of Sinking Fund.*
				Amount of Stock 31-12-28.	*Cost Price 31-12-28.*	*Market Value 31-3-28.*			
		£							
Basseterre Protection Loan.	Ordinance 5 of 1885.	3,900	5%	4,353 2 6	4,120 3 4	3,790 6 6	To be paid off when Sinking Fund is sufficient by half-yearly investment of a sum equal by 1 per cent. of total amount issued.	1930	1% of Loan per annum.
Nevis Water Works Loan of 1889 and P. W. Loan of 1893 (now Inscribed Stock)	10 of 1889, 6 of 1893 now 4 of 1893.	31,850	4%	23,261 10 3	21,800 16 9	20,597 6 3	do.	1st April 1919/ 1944	do.
P. W. Loan 1891.	4 of 1891	23,500	½%	20,006 9 8	18,065 9 7	16,804 13 2	do.	1st April 1939	do.
Electric Light Loan	12 of 1927	10,000	5%					1st Nov. 1967	do.
		£69,250		47,621 2 5	43,986 9 8	41,192 5 11			

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Contributions to Sinking Fund of the Public Works Loan of 1891 ceased during 1928, the fund being potentially full, and the necessary legislation was passed to give effect to this (Ordinance, No. 8 of 1928).

Public Debt.

At the commencement of the financial year 1st April, 1928, the Public Debt, after the amounts to the credit of the Sinking Funds had been deducted amounted to £26,731 11 5

Credits to Sinking Funds 1st April to 31st December, 1928, amounted to 1,468 1 1

Leaving the Public Debt on 31st December, 1928, at £25,263 10 4

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Imports.

The value of imports into the Presidency in 1928 amounted to £317,102, which was £12,316 less than the value of the imports of 1927.

The following is a summary of the Imports for the past three years :—

From	1926 £	1927 £	1928 £
United Kingdom	94,312	119,075	104,304
Canada	138,962	84,647	82,021
India	16,372	12,191	10,617
Bermuda	324	1,184	238
British Guiana	8,551	3,682	3,963
Trinidad	3,520	8,126	8,097
Barbados	4,023	4,697	5,598
Jamaica	49	15	50
Windward Islands	350	157	161
Leeward Islands	1,720	2,008	924
Other British Possessions ...	144	264	1,277
Total British Possessions... ...	174,015	116,971	112,946
United States	78,256	71,951	78,654
Denmark	682	829	569
Holland	5,885	6,130	7,301
France	3,367	3,710	4,445
Germany	968	2,643	1,513
Santo Domingo	5,002	1,098	475
Other Foreign Countries	4,086	7,011	6,895
Total Foreign Countries	98,246	93,372	99,852
Total Imports 1927	£366,573	329,418	317,102

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The following is a Comparative return of the Imports of the principal articles during the past three years :—

Article.	1926. Quantity.	1926. Value.	1927. Quantity.	1927. Value.	1928. Quantity.	1928. Value.
		£		£		£
Beer, Ale and Stout ... galls.	4,689	1,064	11,126	2,163	10,355	2,277
Boots and Shoes ...doz.prs.	11,216	3,633	1,935	6,002	1,726	5,943
Cement brls. of 400 lbs.	3,932	2,117	3,755	2,894	6,462	5,280
Cotton piece goods ... yds.	496,103	14,466	854,016	21,053	579,958	24,393
Flour ... ... bags	22,506	39,143	22,711	26,178	33,124	35,728
Manures, Chemical ... tons	366	5,196	521	6,730	566	6,464
Machinery						
Agricultural		1,796		4,693		864
Sugar		5,743		4,439		6,051
Milk, condensed ... lbs.	6,160	290	6,156	291	7,617	334
Motor Cars	32	3,958	61	9,098	32	4,228
Parts including tyres ...		2,349		2,640		878
Tyres						2,075
Oils, Kerosine ... galls.	46,741	3,562	65,349	3,995	48,243	2,562
Gasoline ... galls.	62,688	5,455	72,226	6,098	90,490	7,049
Paints and Colours ... lbs.	30,774	875	39,228	1,163	46,156	1,304
Sacks and bags ... doz.	13,083	12,392	14,110	8,483	14,487	8,327
Soap ... ... lbs.	243,777	4,459	215,818	3,930	195,638	3,704
Spirits						
Whisky ... ... galls.	6,979	7,233	8,786	9,338	12,308	13,370
Brandy ... ... galls.	226	198	174	209	284	382
Gin ... ... galls.	6,078	2,303	7,997	3,354	8,772	3,980
Rum ... ... galls.	7,674	796	12,061	1,505	8,487	1,024
Tea ... ... lbs.	7,140	871	8,856	1,015	7,097	790

14,134 parcels, of which 1,187 were C.O.D., passed through the Customs for collection of duty during the year. Proper accommodation has now been provided for this and for examination of passengers' baggage, the work consequently being carried out with increased efficiency and despatch.

Exports.

The total value of exports in 1928 was £349,645, a decrease in value of £3,761 as compared with the year 1927 and £10,144 in 1923. The principal export, sugar, amounted to 18,610 tons valued at £265,490. The exports of this commodity in 1927 were 17,363 tons valued at £282,784 and in 1923 10,356 tons valued at £277,111. The exports to Canada in 1928 were valued at £90,504, a decrease of £15,364 as compared with 1927 and £46,804 in 1923, while the value of exports to the United Kingdom increased from £114,704 in 1927 to £213,767 in 1928. The total value of re-exports (principally food-stuffs to neighbouring foreign islands and liquor to the Virgin Islands) amounted in 1928 to £36,207 as compared with £19,569 in 1927 and £20,539 in 1923.

Sugar Crops.

The St. Kitts Sugar Factory made 19,443 tons and the average price obtained was £14 18*s.* 0*d.* per ton, as compared with 18,067 tons in 1927 and 10,737 tons in 1923 with average prices of £16 14*s.* 7*d.* and £26 3*s.* 7*d.* respectively. Of this 12,450 tons valued at £173,847 were sent to the United Kingdom and 6,000 tons valued at £88,810 to Canada, as compared with 4,650 tons valued at £75,946 and 12,550

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tons valued at £203,690 in 1927. In 1923, 5,000 tons valued at £130,896 went to the United Kingdom, 5,086 tons valued at £133,146 to Canada and 250 tons valued at £6,545 to the United States of America.

Cotton.

In 1928 the exports of Sea Island Cotton amounted to 438,552 lbs. valued at £36,038, an average price of 19*d.* per lb., as compared with 387,167 lbs., in 1927 and 625,041 lbs. in 1923 with values of £35,205 (21*d.* per lb.) and £54,409 (20*d.* per lb.) respectively. Of the 1928 cotton exports 282,023 lbs., valued at £23,988 were produced in St. Kitts, 155,023 lbs., valued at £11,956 in Nevis, and 1,506 lbs. valued at £94 in Anguilla, all of which was exported to the United Kingdom.

Shipping.

The total number of steamers entered at the port of Basseterre, St. Kitts, in 1928 was 248 of a total tonnage of 604,540, as compared with 188 of 429,855 tons in 1927, and 162 of 471,734 in 1923. Steamers of British tonnage entered and cleared in 1928 amounted to 1,079,502 tons, and foreign steamships 128,474 tons, as compared with 745,684 and 83,494 in 1923. Total tonnage entered and cleared in 1928 was 1,236,450; in 1923 848,423.

V. COMMUNICATIONS.

Internal communication is by vehicular traffic on macadamised roads. There are 29 miles of main road and 37 miles of by-roads in St. Kitts, and in Nevis there are 60 miles altogether. Anguilla has about 15 miles open to vehicular traffic. Over 300 motor cars and 16 motor omnibuses are constantly travelling on the roads.

The St. Kitts (Basseterre) Sugar Factory Ltd. has a light railway (36 miles) right round St. Kitts for getting the cane to the Factory at Basseterre.

Communication between St. Kitts and Nevis is by sailing boat daily. The Government is inaugurating an efficient motor boat service (mail and passenger) between the two islands and a double trip will be made by this boat.

A regular weekly mail service by sloop exists with Anguilla, but there are occasional opportunities by larger vessels.

Communication with the outside world is by wireless through the System at present operated by the Pacific Cable Board, and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company Ltd. still operates in St. Kitts and is well patronized.

Efficient telephone systems are maintained in St. Kitts and Nevis. In Anguilla there is a limited single line system.

An attempt is being made to establish either wireless telephony between the Administrator's Office at Kitts and the Magistrate's

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Office, Anguilla, or a wireless telegraph system for sending and receiving messages with the Pacific Cable Board Wireless Station in St. Kitts.

Steamers of the Canadian National Steamship Company call fortnightly to and from Canada, as also steamers of the Furness Withy Company from New York. There are many other steamers calling at St. Kitts, including direct boats from the United Kingdom of the Harrison Line. 248 steamers arrived at Basseterre in the year under review.

There is a daily land mail service throughout St. Kitts and Nevis. Towards the end of the year a Loan of £10,000 was floated for the purposes of Electric Light and Cold Storage at Charlestown, Nevis; Cold Storage at Basseterre; an auxiliary vessel for the St. Kitts to Nevis Service; and for commencing a system of hire-purchase houses for the working classes.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

There is a resident Judge (Federal appointment) in St. Kitts. The Supreme Court sits once a quarter. Magistrates are Presidential officers. Two are stationed in St. Kitts and one each in Nevis and Anguilla. In Nevis the Magistrate is also Warden. The Magistrate in Anguilla is also the Medical Officer and Chief Executive Officer in the island.

The police are a Federal Body, and the emoluments of the resident Inspector are borne on the Federal Estimates. The remaining personnel are paid from local funds.

The Prison is also governed by Federal Laws, but the Establishment is a Presidential one. The Inspector of Police is responsible for the maintenance of proper discipline in His Majesty's prison.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Reference has been made to some of the new public works under the heading "General." The routine work of the Public Works Department has been satisfactorily carried out during the year.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH AND VITAL STATISTICS.

With the exception of an outbreak of Malaria in Nevis between November and February, with fortunately a very mild mortality rate, the islands have remained generally in a healthy condition, although the after effects of the hurricane will be felt for some time to come. Sanitation both in the capital and in the country districts has much improved, and the use of a motor scavenging service, and the installation of water flush closets in most of the better class houses and communal lavatories in the poorer quarters, have assisted greatly in this direction. Emigration to Santo Domingo and Cuba has been much lessened, but there has been a corresponding increase to Curacao in connection with the development of the

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South American Oilfields. It is, however, hoped and expected that the emigrants, who are mostly men, will make it only a temporary absence for money-making purposes from their homes and families, as there is a distinct and hopeful spirit of establishing good and permanent homes for themselves in their own country arising among the people. The general population of the Presidency is estimated at about 36,000, and that of Basseterre, the Capital, at about 8,000. Basseterre is a flourishing port and distributing centre for not only the smaller British islands but also for the Dutch islands of Saba, St. Eustatius, and St. Martin, and the French islands of St. Bartholomew and St. Martin.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education is compulsory, and is in charge of a local Inspector of Schools assisted by 31 Head Teachers and nearly a hundred Assistant and Pupil Teachers in the 31 schools of the Presidency.

Secondary Education is provided for boys by a Government school conducted by a qualified English Headmaster and two Assistants. The school is run on similar lines to an English Grammar School. The standard attained is usually that of the Cambridge School Certificate.

There is a good Secondary School for Girls maintained by the Sisters of the Convent at St. Kitts, and another secondary school at Nevis.

A Government Secondary School for Girls is also being arranged for.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The fertile volcanic soil of St. Kitts is agriculturally almost perfect, and the planters make good use of its possibilities. A modern factory, one of the largest and most up to date in the West Indies, manufactures all the sugar of St. Kitts from the canes brought to it by a railway that encircles the whole island. The Government has now only a few acres of land, and these are used for experimental purposes, the greater portion being retained for cotton cultivation, the more important factor of which is the rearing and selection of seed of a standard quality to ensure the continuance of the reputation which the Presidency has secured for fine Sea Island Cotton. Important experiments in the breeding of selected varieties of Sugar Cane are also continuously carried out.

Geology.

St. Kitts and Nevis are almost entirely composed of volcanic eruptive rocks and their derivatives. Anguilla is mostly limestone. A report on the geology of St. Kitts, Nevis and Anguilla has been written by Mr. Kenneth W. Earle, M.Sc., F.G.S., sometime Government Geologist to the Windward and Leeward Islands.

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XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigrant labour in the Presidency. The inhabitants supply all the labour required for Agricultural and other purposes. During the last year there has been a considerable exodus to Curacao (Dutch). As a consequence there is perhaps a greater shortage of labourers in St. Kitts this year. In previous years during crop time emigration was chiefly directed to Santo Domingo and Cuba. Labourers from the less extensively cultivated islands of Nevis and Anguilla (part of the Presidency) relieve what would otherwise be a difficult problem in St. Kitts.

St. Kitts is the " stepping off " place of many of the islands of the Lesser Antilles whose emigrants yearly seek better wages in the large Sugar producing countries of the West Indies.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

CLIMATE.

The islands, owing to their northern situation and exposure to the refreshing Trade Winds, are said to be the coolest and the healthiest of the Lesser Antilles. The continuous slopes down the mountain sides (highest peak in St. Kitts 3,700 feet) to the sea cause a perfect drainage so that no stagnant waters collect and the climate generally, especially from November to May, is ideal. The average rainfall is 54 inches and the shade temperature varies from 66° to 88°. Efforts are being made to encourage a tourist trade, and the facilities for general sport, including tennis, cricket, boating, and sea-fishing, are excellent.

BANKS.

There are branches of Barclays Bank (D.C. and O.) and of the Royal Bank of Canada at St. Kitts, and also a Government Savings Bank. The two former use the dollar currency at a fixed rate of $4.80 to the pound. Government accounts are kept in sterling.

DOMINICA.

I.—GENERAL.

As is provided for every three years under the Constitution Ordinance a new Legislative Council was constituted in February last. The general elections for the seats of the four elected members resulted in the return of the Honourable J. B. Charles for the Eastern District, the Honourable L. Rose for the parish of St. George, R. E. A. Nicholls, Esquire, for the town of Roseau, and H. D. Shillingford, Esquire, for the Northern District, which, with the appointments of the Honourable H. H. V. Whitchurch and G. A. C. Grell, Esquire, as nominated members, complete the unofficial side of the Council. The Official section was appointed as usual.

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His Honour E. C. Eliot, Administrator, returned from leave of absence in April and resumed the administration of the Government of the Presidency.

The Agricultural Development of the Island progressed during the year, the Loan Board continuing to assist planters with the funds placed at its disposal by the Imperial Government. Estates unable to take advantage of loans were aided by being supplied with free plants for replanting their lands, a total of 103,518 plants having been distributed by the Agricultural Department for the year.

In September the Island was visited by a hurricane of considerable intensity which caused great damage to roads, bridges, the electric light and telephone systems and various Government constructions, the chief of which were as follows :—Three Roseau Jetties, Colihaut Jetty, Fish Market Roseau, Sea Wall Roseau, and Dos d'Ane School. Only one life was lost but many of the poorer classes had their huts with their belongings washed away, as well as having their gardens destroyed. Many launches and a few sloops were also damaged and a considerable portion of the lime crop was destroyed.

A local Hurricane Relief Committee was formed to give relief to the sufferers towards which the sum of £240 17*s.* 9½*d.* was locally subscribed and the sum of £2,600 allotted to Dominica by the Leeward Islands Hurricane Committee.

In spite of the hurricane, there is every indication that the financial condition of the Presidency tends to improve. This is chiefly due to the high prices for lime oils and other lime products, and it is estimated that the Revenue for the financial year 1928–29 will be the highest recorded in the history of Dominica.

The New Canadian National Steamships Service was inaugurated in December when the s.s. *Lady Nelson* made her maiden voyage with an official party from Canada on board. A Tourists Trade Development Committee has been formed.

II.—FINANCE.

The financial year 1928–29 opened with a deficit of £10,601 and closed with a deficit of £5,361.

The ordinary revenue for the year was £67,945, being £9,129 in excess of the estimate of £58,816 and £7,630 more than the actual revenue in 1927–28.

Imperial Grants to the amount of £24,500 were received and are as follows :—

	£
In aid of Revenue	1,000
Sanitary Campaign	3,500
Agricultural Grants	2,000
Agricultural Loans	8,000
Hurricane Damage	10,000
Total ...	£24,500

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The Grant of £1,000 in aid of administration is not required in view of the year's working.

Export duty, tonnage, dues, Jetty rates, Botanic Gardens receipts, sale of postage and revenue stamps make up the main part of the excess over the estimate of revenue. The unusually high prices obtained for Oils and for Green Limes are chiefly responsible for the satisfactory revenue received during the year, and if the prices remain steady the outlook for the year 1929–30 should be promising.

The ordinary expenditure for the year was £62,705, an excess of £3,936 over the estimate, and £2,316 more than the ordinary expenditure of the previous year.

Pensions and Public Works Extraordinary are responsible for the greater part of the excess over the estimate, as the former was in excess of the estimate by £1,792 and the latter £1,435 in excess of the estimate.

The chief savings in expenditure appear under Head 10, Police, £450 ; Head 13, Hospitals, etc., £577 ; Head 14, Education, £275 ; Military, £85 ; and Head 27, Botanical and Agricultural Department, £321.

Expenditure out of Imperial Funds received was as follows :—

	£
Sanitary Campaign	4,333
Agricultural	2,230
Agricultural Loans	1,000
Hurricane Damage	10,249
Total	£17,812

showing a saving of £6,688 on the amount received for those services.

The value of Imports during 1928 is £178,603, being £9,973 in excess of imports in 1927, and the exports for 1928 were valued at £190,622, an excess of £38,401 over the previous year.

Having regard to the conditions existing in Dominica at the present time, the financial position of the Island at 31st March, 1929, may be regarded as satisfactory.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agricultural.

The Lime Industry.—The export figures for limes and lime products during the year 1928 show a falling off of 5,000 barrels when represented as fruit. This decrease is attributable to outbreaks of root disease, and the hurricane of the 12th September, 1928.

The Department of Agriculture has laid down large nurseries and is propagating budded and grafted lime trees to replace the seedling lime which is rapidly being destroyed by the ravages of root disease.

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It has been demonstrated that budded limes possess qualities superior to the seedling, one of which is immunity to most root troubles.

High prices for lime products held throughout the year and the closing prices for December were Ripe Limes, 15*s.* per barrel; Green Limes, 20*s.* per barrel; Lime Oils, 46*s.* per lb. for essential and 25*s.* per lb. for distilled.

The crop shipped since 1919, calculated in barrels of fruit and expressed in round numbers, is recorded below :—

1919	402,000	Prior to appearance of Withertip.
1920	369,000	
1921	516,000	
1922	400,000	
1923	228,000	
1924	424,000	Owing to carry over from previous year.
1925	230,000	
1926	214,000	
1927	210,000	
1928	205,000	

The following table calculated on the usual basis shows the disposal of the crop under various heads.

Product.	*Barrels of fruit.*	*Approximate percentage of total crop.*
Concentrated lime juice	136,096½	66.1
Raw juice	40,812	19.8
Fresh limes	26,830	13.0
Pickled limes	225	.10
Lime juice cordial	1,853½	.90

The exports of products of the lime industry during 1928 is recorded below :—

Product.	*Quantity.*	*Value.* £
Concentrated lime juice	90,731 gallons	20,726
Raw lime juice	306,090 gallons	20,947
Lime juice cordial	337 gallons	51
Fresh limes	26,830 barrels	24,743
Pickled Limes	225 barrels	472
Essential Oil (distilled)	32,174 lb.	37,192
Otto of limes (handpressed or ecuelled).	7,677 lb.	15,383
		£119,514

50 gallons of concentrated juice represents 75 barrels of lime fruits : 7½ gallons of raw juice represents 1 barrel of lime fruits : 1 ton of citrate of lime is equivalent to 266 barrels of lime fruits : 1 ton of citric acid is equivalent to 400 barrels of lime fruits : 1 gallon of lime juice cordial represents 5½ barrels of lime fruits.

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Fruit Industry.—During the year a Fruit Ordinance was passed, providing for the establishment of a Central Fruit Packing Depot where the packing, grading, and shipping of fruit will be carried out under Government control.

A visit by the Empire Marketing Board's Citrus expert, Professor Clark Powell, was made in July. He pronounced the possibilities of developing a Grapefruit industry as excellent, owing to the abundance of suitable land, and the estimated low costs of production.

The planting of fruit trees is proceeding, the Agricultural Department having to meet a large demand for budded plants of Grapefruit and Oranges, also Grafted Mangoes. The export of fruit is steadily increasing although the hurricane of the 12th September, 1928, caused considerable damage to this year's crop in certain localities.

Coconuts.—A steady increase in the export of Copra has again to be noted. The official export figures for the last five years being 1924=46,173 lbs., 1925=64,977 lbs., 1926=109,037 lbs., 1927=140,393 lbs., 1928=184,496 lbs. The export of dried nuts has also increased from 187,794 in 1926 to 253,217 in 1928. This shows good progress of the industry especially as a considerable number of dried nuts are purchased by a local soap factory, recently established in Roseau.

Cocoa.—Planters whose estates are favourably situated for the growing of this crop are making extensions and paying more attention to their existing cultivations. The demand for planting material is readily met by the Agricultural Department.

Coffee.—Revived interest in this crop has resulted in considerable plantings being made. The Congo Coffee (Coffea robusta) which grows so well in Dominica is the variety principally in demand although Arabian is also being planted in localities where it is apparently best suited. Uganda Coffee, San Ramon, and Excelsia varieties, introduced by the Department, are now being tried on a field scale.

Vanilla.—Despite the low market price, much planting of this crop has been carried out by the Peasant Proprietors.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The trade of the Presidency in 1928 showed an increase in spite of the hurricane in September. There was an increase in Imports from Canada, especially in the case of wheaten flour and boots and shoes. This can be attributed to the greater preference accorded under the Canadian West Indies Trade Agreement of 1926.

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The export trade was remarkable for a continuation of the high prices realised for Lime Oils and Green Limes, which are mainly exported to the United States of America. Raw and concentrated Juice are exported mainly to Great Britain. There has been a notable increase in the export of Copra during recent years. This product goes chiefly to Great Britain. Prices lately have, however, declined somewhat.

There is an opening for the sale of Motor Vehicles of British Manufacture especially as regards motor-cars of the cheap kind which are now being manufactured by certain firms in Great Britain.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

The new ships of the Canadian National Steamships commenced their fortnightly calls in December. They are finely equipped vessels both as regards passenger accommodation and cold storage for perishable cargo.

The Wireless Station carried out efficient service throughout the year.

There is no Inland telegraph service, and the country telephone service was seriously impaired by the hurricane of September. The Inland postal service was well maintained.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Senior Puisne Judge of the Leeward Islands is resident in Dominica. Three Magistrates divide the island Courts, with an additional Magistrate for Roseau and District.

The efficiency of the Police Force, a detachment of the Leeward Islands Force, was well maintained.

Short sentence prisoners only are retained in the Roseau Prison. Discipline has been satisfactory throughout the year.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Many public works were carried out during the year, the most important being the construction of a new span to the Goodwill Bridge, Roseau River; the building of a river protection wall above Goodwill Bridge, Roseau River; and the construction of cottage hospitals at Marigot and Grand Bay. For the latter the Presidency is indebted to Mr. T. B. Macaulay of Canada, who gave a generous donation of £1,000 towards the construction of cottage hospitals and leper treatment centres.

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With regard to damage to roads and public services the Imperial Government have made a grant of £5,000, and a loan of £5,000 without interest, for repairs and reconstruction which are progressing favourably. The principal services due to hurricane damage are as follows :—

Restoration of electric light and telephone service, Roseau.

Construction of temporary jetty, Roseau.

Reconstruction of Canefield public road with protection seawall.

Construction of new public road deviation through Goodwill Estate.

Rebuilding of Dos d'Ane Schoolhouse and remaking of Pointe Michel Road, Soufriere and Scotts Head Road, and repairs to various other roads throughout the Island.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH—STATISTICS.

The estimated population of Dominica at the end of 1928 was 41,671 as against 41,051 in 1927.

The births registered during the year numbered 1,579 as against 1,341 in 1927, giving a birth-rate of 37.08 per thousand of the population as against 32.66 per thousand in the previous year.

Births.	*Males.*	*Females.*
The legitimate births were	331	322
The illegitimate births were	498	428

leaving an excess of illegitimate births over legitimate births of 273.

The percentage of legitimate and illegitimate births were 41.04 and 58.06 respectively.

In 1927 the illegitimate births exceeded the legitimate births by 163 (752 as against 589 or 56.07 and 43.92 respectively).

Marriages.—The number of marriages recorded in 1928 was 189 as against 192 in 1927, showing a decrease of 3. Of the 189 marriages recorded—

175 were solemnized in the Roman Catholic Church
8 ,, ,, ,, Church of England
5 ,, ,, ,, Wesleyan Church.

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered during 1928 was 490 males and 494 females, making a total of 984 as against 945 in the previous year—an increase of 39, and the death-rate per thousand on the estimated population was 23.06 as against 23.00 per thousand in 1927.

The excess of arrivals over departures for the year was 25, 16 of which were males and 9 females.

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A public health campaign is being carried out with funds supplied by the Imperial Government under the direction of a Medical Officer of Health. The sanitation of the town of Roseau and reclamation of swamp land at Portsmouth have progressed satisfactorily.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Primary education is under the supervision of a Federal Inspector of Schools who issues an annual report on the schools of the Colony.

Secondary education for boys is provided for at the Roseau Grammar School with an average of 40 scholars of local parentage.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Colonial Engineer is also Surveyor General. Crown Land is available for peasant proprietorship at the low price of 10*s.* an acre, in addition to survey fees. Available land lies, however, at considerable altitudes with consequent difficulty in transport of products.

XI.—LABOUR.

Dominica is an island of peasant proprietors, and there are only a few estates which employ any quantity of labour. Owing to the hurricane of September, labour was in considerable demand for reconstruction and repair work, and therefore there was no large exodus of labourers during the year under review for work on the sugar cultivation of San Domingo, Porto Rico and Curacao, which is usually the case in the latter months of the year.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Legislative Council passed 16 Ordinances during the year, the principal ones affecting the Revenue being as follows :—

No. 1 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to amend the Road Ordinance, 1914."

No. 2 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to amend further the Customs Import and Export Tariff Consolidation Ordinance, 1925."

No. 5 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to amend further the Customs Import and Export Tariff Consolidation Ordinance, 1925."

No. 6 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to reduce the Excise Duty on Tobacco."

No. 15 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to amend The Bakeries Tax Ordinance, 1925."

Of these Ordinances Nos. 1 and 2 of 1928 were to carry into effect the abolition of the Road Tax and the imposition of an additional surtax on imports in lieu thereof. Ordinance No. 5 of 1928 and

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No. 6 of 1928 reduced the Import Duty on unmanufactured tobacco and the Excise Duty on tobacco respectively, and have resulted in an increase of Revenue.

The other more important Ordinances were as follows :—

No. 4 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to regulate the examination and exportation of fruit, to prohibit the shipment of defective fruit, and to make provision for the export of fruit to Canada," to control and further the development of the fruit trade.

No. 12 of 1928.—" An Ordinance for raising funds for the installation of an electricity supply system for the town of Roseau," to provide for a new and up-to-date electric light plant, the present system being in a hopeless condition.

No. 15 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to amend further The Motor Car Ordinance, 1915," and

No. 16 of 1928.—" An Ordinance to amend further the Licences Ordinance, 1922."

MONTSERRAT.

I.—GENERAL.

During the first eight months of the year economic progress was well maintained. With a sufficient and well distributed rainfall, the staple crop, Sea Island Cotton, was exceptionally good, the yield being larger than that of previous years. Considerable effort was made to grow more vegetables and fruit for the Canadian market. The principal events of the year were :

The establishment of the new Grammar School, which is under Government control, at the beginning of the year.

The Agricultural Exhibition opened by His Excellency the Governor on the 9th March.

The addition of three new steamers to the Canadian National Steamships for service between Canada and West Indies, *The Lady Nelson* visiting the island towards the end of December. These vessels are fitted with ample cold storage.

The inauguration of a Peasants' Information Office for the exportation of produce to the Canadian and other markets.

The year 1928 will always be remembered on account of the devastating hurricane which struck this island on the 12th September causing heavy loss of life and property. Many Government buildings, Churches, Schools, Estate and other buildings, and peasants' houses were destroyed.

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Damage to Government property was estimated at £9,790. Reconstruction of Government property, Estate buildings, and peasants' houses are well under way, and thanks to the wonderful recuperative power of the Island, normal conditions have practically been re-established.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year 1928–29 amounted to ... ... which includes £1,681 4*s.* 8*d.* received from Insurance against hurricane damage and £2,500 Imperial Grant-in-aid.	£30,330	8	11½
The Expenditure amounted to ... ... of which amount £9,243 6*s.* 1*d.* was spent on hurricane work.	32,277	11	3
Both the Revenue and the Expenditure were the largest on record. The Surplus on the 1st April, 1928, was	5,199	3	8½
and was reduced to ... ... on the 31st March, 1929.	3,252	1	8
The Reserve Fund stood at	10,304	10	9
The Public Debt remained the same as at 31st March, 1928, viz:	14,100	0	0
The amounts to the credit of the various Sinking Funds were as follows:—			
Water Works Loan, 1883	1,116	12	6
Public Works Loan, 1893	7,101	8	3
Wireless Loan, 1925	642	14	6
Total	£8,860	15	3

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculturally, the Island of Montserrat, while making rapid progress during 1928, received an unfortunate setback by the hurricane on September 12th. This not only brought all agricultural activities to a standstill, but converted the work of progression into one of reconstruction of the Island's commerce and agriculture generally. However, the work of rehabilitation was so vigorously pursued that, towards the end of the year, signs of rapid recovery to a more normal state were much in evidence. Cotton, the Island's chief industry, proved again the mainstay. By dint of early methods the cotton crop suffered only moderate damage. From 2,600 acres, the very satisfactory output of 600,000 lbs. lint was produced. The percentage of Stain Cotton showed the satisfactorily low figure of only 5%, a clear indication that the once dreaded Pink Boll Worm

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menace is now well under control. The price realized on the Cotton Crop was an improvement on previous years. Peasants enjoyed great prosperity by the ready sale of their cotton crop in the form of seed cotton at 5*d.* per lb., while large growers found a better market in Manchester. The Lime Industry sustained a permanent setback by the storm, and just at the time when prices for Lime Products were in the ascendancy, and young lime fields in vigorous condition. No time has, however, been lost in replanting increased areas in this crop, and the propitious weather experienced has influenced a good start.

The Sugar, Papain, and Bay Leaf Industries were not increased during the current year on account of indifferent market prices of these commodities.

The establishment of a Peasants' Bureau took place during the year. This organization propagates all types of economic plants for the peasants, and was of untold benefit in the reconstruction of peasants' fruit groves so badly destroyed by the September storm. The marketing of peasants' vegetables, especially tomatoes for the Canadian market, was inaugurated by this Bureau.

1928 proved a year of high rainfall, and September 12th will long be remembered as the day on which the island was visited by one of the severest hurricanes in its history.

Commercially, the trade of the Island still continues to show a further upward trend. The value of the Island's exports increased from £68,753 in the previous record year to £88,026 during the year under review.

The principal Exports of the Island's Chief and Minor Industries for the past five years are as follows :—

	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Cotton Lint	*Quantity.* 477,775 lb.	*Quantity.* 342,863 lb.	*Quantity.* 377,294 lb.	*Quantity.* 665,113 lb.	*Quantity.* 863,028 lb.
	Value. £47,183	*Value.* £38,913	*Value.* £39,097	*Value.* £50,526	*Value.* £74,637
Onions	*Quantity.* 110,286 lb.	*Quantity.* 158,739 lb.	*Quantity.* 304,562 lb.	*Quantity.* 447,602 lb.	*Quantity.* 204,016 lb.
	Value. £1,118	*Value.* £1,436	*Value.* £2,435	*Value.* £6,663	*Value.* £1,478
Lime Products Raw Juice	*Quantity.* 41,216 gal.	*Quantity.* 7,057 gal.	*Quantity.* 34,594 gal.	*Quantity.* 34,047 gal.	*Quantity.* 33,906 gal.
	Value. £3,118	*Value.* £565	*Value.* £2,086	*Value.* £1,720	*Value.* £1,803
Concentrated Lime Juice	—	—	—	—	*Quantity.* 1,485 gal.
					Value. £326

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	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Green Limes	—	—	—	—	*Quantity.* 56 brls. *Value.* £28
Ecuelled and Distilled Lime Oil.	—	—	—	—	*Quantity.* 1,283 lb. *Value.* £1,669
Papain	*Quantity.* 599 lb. *Value.* £424	*Quantity.* 541 lb. *Value.* £379	*Quantity.* 1,696 lb. *Value.* £1,106	*Quantity.* 1,243 lb. *Value.* £877	*Quantity.* 550 lb. *Value.* £377
Sugar	*Quantity.* 36 tons *Value.* £513	*Quantity.* 1½ tons *Value.* £15	*Quantity.* 47,960 lb. *Value.* £411	*Quantity.* 61½ tons *Value.* £1,222	*Quantity.* 11 tons *Value.* £168
Bay Oil	*Quantity.* 141 gals. *Value.* £705	*Quantity.* 123 gals. *Value.* £615	*Quantity.* 104 gals. *Value.* £325	*Quantity.* 67 gals. *Value.* £53	*Quantity.* 145 gals. *Value.* £165
Tomatoes	—	—	—	—	*Quantity.* 213 crates. *Value.* £53

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COMPARATIVE RETURN OF

Articles.	1926.				1927.
	Canada.	*U.S.A.*	*U.K.*	*All Places.*	*Canada.*
	Value. £	Value. £	Value. £	Value. £	Value. £
Butter	625	63		721	632
Oleo-Margarine		176		515	4
Dried Fish	2,028			2,383	1,887
Herrings	491			513	339
Flour	8,559	26	3	8,741	7,400
Sugar	674	3		1,766	765
Pork	396	349		878	492
Rice	35	5	45	757	42
Corn-meal	55	89		275	11
W Pine and Spruce ...	667			975	668
Pitch Pine	21	338		2,127	5
Boots and Shoes	349	461	297	1,105	215
Motor Cars	167	1,229		1,396	346
C.P. Goods	105	4,563	3,406	8,399	210
Machinery	11	27	653	1,036	
Iron Goods	222	330	1,950	2,716	20
Chemicals	1		643	915	
Soap (common)	10	4	631	700	190
Sp. Liquors			784	2,319	
Other Goods				26,912	
				65,149	

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF

Articles.	1926.								1927.	
	Canada.		*U.S.A.*		*U.K.*		*All Places.*		*Canada.*	
		£		£		£		£		£
Cotton Lint ... ... (lb.)					509,667	51,231	509,667	51,231		
Cotton Seed ... ... (cwt.)							4,987	3,180		
Cotton Seed Meal ... (bags)							51	403		
Cotton Seed Oil... ... (gal)							6,011	645		
Bay Oil ... ... (gal)					152	309	160	325		
Lime Juice ... ... (gal)					31,184	2,085	31,184	2,085	11,619	862
Lime Citrate ... ... (lb.)					32	32	32	32		
Onions ... ... (lb.)	3,800	26	48,250	403			300,852	2,435		
Tobacco ... ... (lb.)			1,696	1,106	1,080	21	1,342	34		
Papaine ... ... (lb.)							1,696	1,106		
Sugar ... ... (cwt.)	9,400	375			120	5	8,560	411	300	390
Cattle ... ... (No.)							73	359		
Other Exports		19				80		1,109		111
		420		1,509		53,763		63,355		1,363

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MPORTS 1926–27–28.

1927.			1928.			
U.S.A.	*U.K.*	*All Places.*	*Canada.*	*U.S.A.*	*U.K.*	*All Places.*
Value.	Value.	Value.	Value.	Value.	Value.	Value.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£
22	4	700	621	14	33	729
79	67	436	13	2	125	490
		2,421	2,722	1		2,744
		528	400			422
		7,440	9,435	5		9,440
		2,402	874	17		4,131
244	3	905	194	453		787
22		669	32	2		919
71		184	24	136		400
		1,075	1,925	1		2,033
222		1,543	184	1,083		2,785
458	633	1,567	319	388	443	1,154
794		1,345		718		718
2,938	3,330	7,551	17	3,535	2,891	7,937
209	1,184	2,177	16	73	394	510
179	1,285	2,515	627	26	171	991
2	12	24	9	40	13	66
43	466	681	64	1	512	645
	888	2,536	1		897	2,556
		26,703	5,087	5,481	10,358	26,977
		63,402				66,434

EXPORTS FOR 1926–27–28.

1927.						1928.							
U.S.A.		*U.K.*		*All Places.*		*Canada.*		*U.S.A.*		*U.K.*		*All Places.*	
£		£		£		£		£		£		£	
		665,133	50,526	665,133	50,526			24,496	2,000	827,965	71,864	863,025	74,637
				740	2,513					2,780	582	3,960	926
				72	534							1,008	579
				6,902	1,439							6,484	1,446
1	3	56	30	67	50					1,100	145	1,100	156
		21,551	800	33,697	1,690	16,901	1,164	1,135	200	15,328	560	35,391	2,123
238,604	5,009			447,602	6,662			30,470	235			204,016	1,478
		500	17	500	17							224	25
1,141	808	61	30	1,242	858			550	377			550	377
		900	750	1,220	1,224							220	165
				111	795							243	1,529
	29		434		2,445	217			1,700		323		3,158
	5,849		52,587		68,753		1,381		4,512		73,474		86,599

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The Imports for 1928 amounted to £66,434 and the Exports to £86,599 showing an increase of Exports over Imports of £20,165.

The Imports showed an increase of £3,032 over 1927. This was due to larger imports during the latter part of the year of sugar, lumber, etc., consequent on the hurricane of September last.

The exports showed an increase of £17,846 over 1927, and was due to the large export of 863,025 lbs. of Sea Island Cotton Lint valued at £74,637, which is the largest quantity exported on record. The cotton was assessed at a conservative value of 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb., but from information received, it is understood that some of the cotton sold as high as 2*s.* $2\frac{3}{4}$*d.* per lb.

The Comparative Statements of Imports and Exports for the last three years show the trend of trade in the principal imports and exports.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Regular steamship services are fortnightly by the Canadian National Steamships to the neighbouring English Islands, British Guiana, and Canada. Sailing sloops trade to the nearest sister-Presidencies.

A wireless Station operated by the Pacific Cable Board connects with all the other West Indian Islands, Barbados being the distributing centre.

The telephone installation is a double wire metallic circuit system.

The roads are kept in good repair. They are liable to heavy wash in the rainy season, which causes the cost of their repair to be heavy. The configuration of the land is not suitable to heavy transport service other than on the main roads, and produce from the far districts is conveyed to Town by boat and pack transport. No railways exist.

The inland postal service was re-organised in 1926, when three Sub-Post Offices were established in the country districts.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

A Magistrate's Court is held twice a week, and the Supreme Court of the Colony decides Appeals from this Court and tries cases of serious crime three times a year. A Court of Summary Jurisdiction is appointed periodically. During the year, no unusual cases of crime occurred, and general peace and good order were maintained.

A Division of the Leeward Islands Police is stationed in the Presidency, under a Sub-Inspector of Police. During the year the health of the men was good, and the discipline excellent.

Short term prisoners are kept in the local jail; sentences of more than six months are served at the Central Prison in Antigua.

The health of the prisoners was good, and no serious breaches of the Prison Regulations were committed.

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VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Owing to the hurricane of September 12th–13th, a heavy demand has been made on the Public Works Department.

Reconstruction work on the following services and public buildings is in course of being carried out.

The Town water supply was very badly damaged at its source, and the supply partially cut off for ten days. The Main Town Reservoir was badly damaged, making it impossible to use the same for storage of water. The water supplies at the North, Cork Hill, and Gages were all badly damaged.

Nearly all Government buildings, with the exception of the Treasury and Post Office, were considerably damaged. Houston Bridge, connecting the North and South of the Island was swept away.

Two-thirds of the Iron Jetty was carried out to sea with both cranes.

Total damage to Government Buildings and Services, as assessed by the Government Assessment Committee, amounted to £5,740 plus £2,250 for the replacement of that portion of the Jetty which was carried away.

Damage to Roads caused by the hurricane amounted to £1,800.

Steady progress is being made in the construction work.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Previous to the hurricane, the general health conditions were good. The Town of Plymouth was kept in a sanitary state.

After the hurricane, during the last quarter of 1928, there were two epidemics in the Island, viz : Influenza and Gastro-enteritis. The latter occurred chiefly in infants, and caused fifty deaths. Besides these, there were more cases than usual of Lobar Pneumonia, Dysentery, and Typhoid Fever. The still births increased to 25 in 1928, as compared with 18 in 1927. The death rate for the year 1928 was much augmented, there being 296 deaths as compared with 181 in 1927.

IX.—EDUCATION.

All education was, until the opening of the Grammar School in January, 1928, only elementary. The Grammar School now provides secondary education at a very moderate cost. On account of the hurricane, it is being carried on in a temporary building until a new school house can be erected.

The Elementary Schools are undertaken by the Religious Denominations with Grants-in-aid from the Government. There are now annually two scholarships for boys and one for girls in the Elementary Schools for free education in the Grammar School and Girls' School.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The soil of the Island is suited to Sea Island Cotton production, giving excellent yields with average manuring.

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There are no Crown lands, the various hills and peaks being appurtenant to the Estates lying along their slopes.

Uncultivated land is not sufficiently extensive and accessible to merit further development.

XI.—LABOUR.

Labour is sometimes scarce, the peasants being attracted to other places where wages are higher, although living conditions are easier for the labourer in the island.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.

FINANCE.

The financial condition of the Presidency of the Virgin Islands on the 31st March, 1929, may be regarded as satisfactory, as the following figures will show :—

RESERVE.

The Reserve funds invested in England with the Crown Agents remained on the 31st March, 1929, at £10,090 10*s.* 10*d.*

SURPLUS.	£	s.	d.
The year opened with a surplus of	4,560	5	4
The revenue in 1928–29 amounted to	9,120	0	7
	13,680	5	11
The expenditure amounted to	9,486	18	4
Leaving a surplus on 31st March, 1929	4,193	7	7

The Revenue of the Presidency amounted to £9,120 0*s.* 7*d.* although this was £612 11*s.* 8*d.* less than the previous year, it was £937 0*s.* 7*d.* more than the estimated figure for 1928–29.

Expenditure exceeded the Estimates by the sum of £1,979 18*s.* 4*d.*, due to unexpected payments being made for re-roofing Government buildings, purchase of a new motor launch, etc., etc.

LOAN AND PUBLIC DEBT.—No loan was raised and the Presidency has no public debt.

SAVINGS BANK.—Savings Bank deposits at 31st March amounted to £821 11*s.* 2*d.* Interest at the rate of 2½ per cent. is paid on deposits.

IMPORTS.—The value of the Imports into the Presidency amounted to £29,789, which was £1,139 more than Imports in 1927.

EXPORTS.—The total value of Exports from the Presidency amounted to £11,799.

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AGRICULTURAL.—The Experiment Station continues to be a disappointment and an expense. Efforts will now be made to encourage the peasants to take up cotton cultivation again and a few acres will be planted on Station land as soon as seed can be obtained. The revenue derived from sugar, coconuts, ground provision, etc., grown at the Station is steadily decreasing ; this is an unsatisfactory state of affairs and unless some improvement takes place the closing down of the Station must be seriously considered.

The following table shows the revenue derived from the Agricultural Department during the last three years :—

Year.	*Estimated Revenue.*	*Amount Realised.*
	£	£
1926–27	1,110	532
1927–28	800	296
1928–29	420	139
	£2,330	£967

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1926–27	532	1,178
1927–28	296	755
1928–29	139	722
	£967	£2,655

From the foregoing it will be seen that during the past three years the amount collected is £1,363 less than was anticipated and the Agricultural Department has actually cost the Presidency £1,688 during this period.

Peasants' Agricultural Bank.—This private concern continues to flourish and is a great boon to the peasant population.

EDUCATION.

Primary education is free and compulsory. There are ten elementary schools in the Presidency and they are all under the Denominational System. Grants-in-aid are made to these schools mainly for the payment of teachers' salaries and equipment. The total expenditure during the year was £575. The attendance generally has continued to improve, reaching a total enrolment of 1,300 during the year from 1,100 in 1924. The number of children of school age is approximately 1,600. There is no secondary school in the Presidency.

There were five prosecutions during the year under the Education Act 8 of 1925, with fines totalling £1 4*s.* 0*d.*

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The schools were regularly visited by the Officer of the Department, and the usual annual examination was conducted by the Federal Inspector of Schools during May.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Presidency was fair during the year. Following the gale of September, there was a general increase of sickness resulting in a few deaths principally amongst the aged and infirm.

The campaign against yaws continues with encouraging results. Vaccination also received particular attention. The Tortola Cottage Hospital increases in popularity ; 107 patients were admitted during the year and 416 out-patients received treatment.

The sanitation of the Presidency is good.

AGRICULTURE.

Normal conditions prevailed in the Virgin Islands until September when a gale of moderate intensity caused considerable damage to all growing crops. Abundant rains have, however, worked wonders and the position is now satisfactory. There is great need in the Presidency for a staple crop to replace cotton cultivation. At one time it was hoped that tobacco would take its place but experience has shown that tobacco is not a peasant's crop, consequently although its cultivation continues the output is considerably reduced.

GENERAL.

The normal prosperity of the Presidency was somewhat marred by a hurricane of moderate intensity that swept over the islands on the 12th and 13th September. Fortunately the full force of the wind was not felt. There were no deaths and only minor damage was done to house property. The growing crops suffered severely but replanting was carried out immediately and abundant rains have had a beneficial effect.

Roads, bridges and jetties, etc., were considerably damaged by high seas and heavy rains. The tobacco barns at the Experiment Station were totally destroyed and some cured tobacco spoiled.

A shark fishing company, known as the Tortola Fisheries Inc., started operations during the year with promising results.

It is regrettable that this industry as well as the growing of cigar tobacco for export should be in the hands of foreigners. The apathy of the Virgin Islanders is shown up very clearly by the industry and enterprise of the two concerns.

Regular communication with St. Thomas is maintained by the Government motor launch which carries mails and passengers. A new launch of smaller tonnage and higher speed has been ordered for the service and it is hoped she will prove more efficient in every way.

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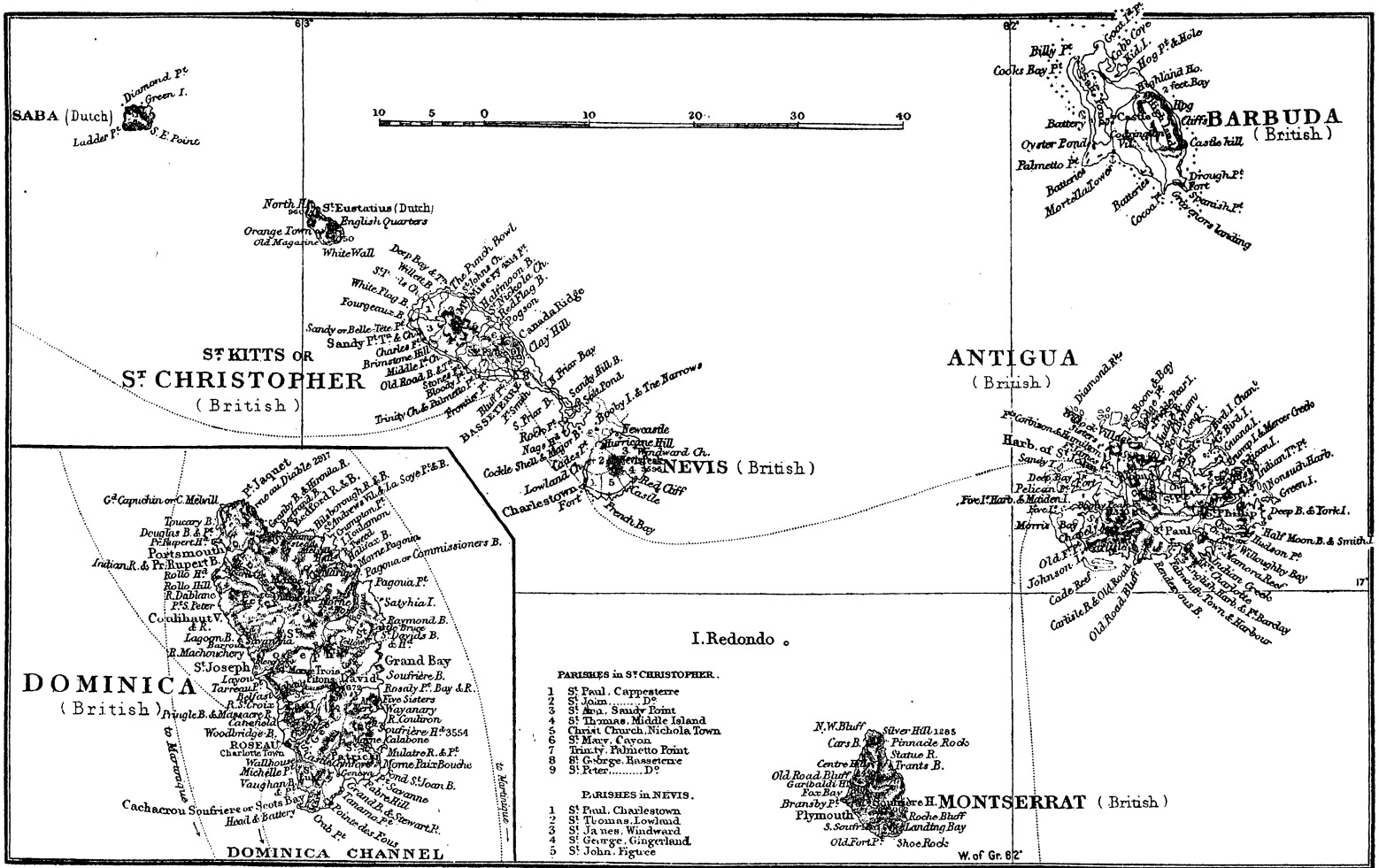
SABA (Dutch)
Diamond Pt
Green I.
Ladder Pt
S.E. Point
10 5 0 10 20 30 40
North Hill
St. Eustatius (Dutch)
English Quarters
Orange Town
Old Magazine
White Wall
Deep Bay & Pt
Wilkes B.
White Flag B.
Fourgeaus B.
Sandy or Belle Tete Pt
Sandy Pt
Charles Pt
Brimstone Hill
Middle Pt
Old Road B. & Pt
Stoney Pt
Bloody Pt
Trinity Ch. & Palmetto Pt
Trouvie Pt
Bluff Pt
The Punch Bowl
St. John Ch.
Nisbetts Spa Pt
Halfmoon B.
Wingola B.
Red Flag B.
Frogson
Canada Ridge
Clay Hill
ST KITTS OR
ST CHRISTOPHER
(British)
S. Pilar B.
N. Brier Bay
Sandy Hill B.
Sandy Pond
Fsmith
Rock Pt
Nage Pt & Major B.
Cable Pt
Cockle Shell & Major B.
Lowland Ch.
Charlestown
Fort
Basseterre
Brimstone Hill
Windward Ch.
Citadel
Castle
Red Cliff
French Bay
Booby I. & The Narrows
NEVIS (British)
I. Redondo
PARISHES in ST CHRISTOPHER.
1 St. Paul, Capesterre
2 St. John ... D°
3 St. Ann, Sandy Point
4 St. Thomas, Middle Island
5 Christ Church, Nichola Town
6 St. Mary, Cayon
7 Trinity, Palmetto Point
8 St. George, Basseterre
9 St. Peter ..... D°
PARISHES in NEVIS.
1 St. Paul, Charlestown
2 St. Thomas, Lowland
3 St. James, Windward
4 St. George, Gingerland
5 St. John, Figtree
Billy Pt
Cooks Bay Pt
Goat Id. Pt
Crab Cove
Crab Id.
Hog Pt & Hole
Highland Ho.
2 feet Bay
Hog
Cliff
BARBUDA
(British)
Battery
Fort Castle
Oyster Pond
Palmetto Pt
Castle hill
Batteries
Mortello Tower
Drough Pt
Fort
Spanish Pt
Batteries
Cocoa Pt
Cr de Gors landing
ANTIGUA
(British)
Pt Cortison & Signal Station
Harb. of St John
Five Is. Harb. & Maiden I.
Morris Bay
Pelican Pt
Sandy I.
Deep Bay
Indian Pt
Five Is.
Diamond Pt
Boon & Bay
Pearl Pt
Pearl I.
Bird I.
Guard I.
Lump I. & Mercer Creek
Indian Pt
Monsuah Harb.
Green I.
Deep B. & York I.
Half Moon B. & Smith
Hudson Pt
Willoughby Bay
Mercers Reef
Dickenson Bay
Carlisle B. & Old Road Bluff
Old Road Bluff
Johnson I.
Cade Reef
Old Fort Pt
Parham Town & Harbour
Gambles B.
Barbadoes Pt
Gt Bird I.
Green I.
Long I.
Prickly Pear I.
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Five Islands Village
Indian Creek
Parham

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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1928.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

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According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship " The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

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When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s.* a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the Departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

During the year, a report on the possibilities of Bermuda as an Air Port was made by an expert from Imperial Airways, Limited, the report also dealing with the establishment of local aerial services. At the present time the subject is still under consideration by the Legislature.

Proposals were also laid before the Legislature for the complete re-organization of the Post Office Department. This matter was referred to a Select Committee of the House of Assembly, who have, as yet, not reported.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure for the years 1927 and 1928 :—

Revenue.

	1927.	1928.
	£	£
By Customs	196,698	220,398
Miscellaneous...	57,332	71,685
Reimbursements	36,205	28,666
	£290,235	£320,749

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Expenditure.

1927.	£	1928.	£
Personal Emoluments	71,201	Personal Emoluments	77,400
Other Charges ...	217,219	Other Charges ...	226,242
	£288,420		£303,642

The above figures include the following items of Extraordinary Receipts and Expenditure, viz :—

1927.

Receipts.	£	*Expenditure.*	£
Loan under inscribed Stock.	20,280	Repayment of Loan to Crown Agents.	10,000
Savings Bank— equalising of Assets and Liabilities.	1,145	Marsh Reclamation...	9,925
Marsh Reclamation	10,013		
	£31,438		£19,925

1928.

	£		£
Issue of Bermuda Notes.	2,000	Marsh Reclamation	16,418
Savings Bank ...	11,087		
Marsh Reclamation	13,487		
	£26,574		£16,418

The Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure was therefore :—

	1927. £	1928. £
Revenue	258,797	294,174
Expenditure	268,494	287,224

The revenue from Customs duties in 1928 exceeded that in 1927 by £23,700. Amongst the items in which increases occurred were the following :—

	£
Ad Valorem	4,109
Surtax	1,554
Cigars and Cigarettes	4,541
Malt Liquor	1,003
Rum	2,927
Spirits...	8,320
Export duty on Spirits	2,141

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Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities at the end of 1928 was £140,429. The following is the detailed statement :—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in the Public Treasury on 31st December, 1928.	33,227	18	4
In hands of Crown Agents—Credit under Act 49, 1924.	4,107	0	9
Reserve Fund created under authority of the Bermuda Investment Act, 1921, No. 58, and 1923, No. 36. Nominal value of stock.	20,507	15	7
Superannuation Fund—Nominal value of Stock ...	31,930	3	0
Investments made under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915—Nominal value of Stock.	52,944	2	11
St. David's Island Bridge Investment Account—Nominal value of Stock.	2,275	16	10
Debenture from the Riddell's Bay Golf and Country Club, Ltd., for loan under authority of Act 2, 1925, No. 29.	12,000	0	0
Savings Bank—			
Investments held—Nominal value of Stock. (£ 108,273 16 6)			
Cash in hands of Manager ... (1,882 4 2)			
Balance of advances made to Savings Bank on account of Interest, etc. ... ... (— —)	110,156	0	8
	£267,148	18	1

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Bermuda Government £1 Notes issued under the authority of the Government Notes Redemption Act, 1917 (No. 9).	38,000	0	0
Ditto ditto issued 1928	2,000	0	0
Savings Bank—			
Amount due Depositors in Savings Bank ...	86,719	3	0
	126,719	3	0
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	140,429	15	1
	£267,148	18	1

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PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of the year was £70,000, viz :—

£50,000 redeemable at par in 1950, incurred in 1920 and 1925 to meet certain public liabilities.

£20,000 redeemable at par in 1959, incurred in 1927 for repayment of loan by Crown Agents and for channel works.

The rate of interest payable is 5 per cent. in each case.

The nominal value of Stock representing investments in Sinking Fund at end of 1928 was £24,582.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The year under review was less favourable to agriculture than was the preceding year. Slightly larger crops were reaped, but prices in New York, the principal market, were below those in 1927.

The quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported during the last ten years were as follows :—

	Bushels.
1919	538,126
1920	513,938
1921	470,225
1922	379,082
1923	318,761
1924	416,604
1925	313,280
1926	426,896
1927	371,887
1928	420,802

The quantity exported in 1928 was 113 per cent. of the previous year's export and 102 per cent. of the average of the last ten years.

The gross value of the exported crops exclusive of lily bulbs was as follows :—

	Vegetables.	*Lily Bulbs.*
	£	£
To Great Britain	—	400
,, Canada	6,961	627
,, United States of America	148,996	14,583
,, Other Countries	—	117

The principal items and their values comprised in the above Table were as follows :—

	£
To Canada—	
Onions	3,502
To United States of America—	
Potatoes	76,562
Celery	21,532
Parsley	18,723
Kale	12,962
Carrots	11,325

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The estimated local value of all agricultural products during the last five years was :—

	£
1924	366,000
1925	270,500
1926	375,526
1927	324,128
1928	281,938

The value of agricultural products for 1928 as shown above is made up as follows :—

	£
Exported (£86,601 to U.S.A.)...	91,938
Consumed locally (including milk, eggs, and meat).	190,000

Agricultural exports were divided among the four markets approximately as follows :—

	Per Cent.
Great Britain	0.1
Canada	4.0
British West Indies	0.9
United States of America	95.0

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1928 was £1,764,485, as compared with £1,782,752 in 1927 and £1,644,377 in 1926.

Imports.

The total values of the imports were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
From the United Kingdom ...	471,704	436,801
,, British Possessions ...	370,420	296,497
,, Foreign Countries ...	745,346	799,496

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :—Boots and Shoes, £35,013 ; Butter, £41,071 ; Beef, £52,569 ; Bran, £36,656 ; Canned Goods, £33,595 ; Clothing, £22,029 ; Cotton Goods, £48,131 ; Electrical Goods, £30,297 ; Fancy Goods, £184,695 ; Flour, £29,980 ; Furniture, £33,144 ; Groceries, £43,296 ; Hardware, £45,995 ; Meats, £46,866 ; Oats, £42,006 ; Poultry and Meats, £35,085 ; Woollen Goods, £35,095 ; Fruit (fresh), £29,880 ; Malt Liquor, £29,220 ; Whisky, £85,490.

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EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports for 1928 was £177,015, as compared with £249,958 in 1927 and £239,553 in 1926, made up as follows :—

	£
To the United Kingdom	11,252
,, British Colonies	47,582
,, Foreign Countries	118,181

The chief articles of export with their declared values were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
Empty Oil Barrels	14,742	17,530
Lily Bulbs	22,122	16,772
Potatoes	39,172	97,360
Other Vegetables	76,635	104,136

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

SHIPPING.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 3,412,301 tons, an increase of 370,951 tons compared with 1927.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	1,532,164	2,473	1,534,637
Cleared	1,534,116	2,740	1,536,856
Total British Shipping			3,071,493

Foreign.

	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	163,417	7,746	171,163
Cleared	162,361	7,284	169,645
Total Foreign Shipping			340,808

The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

	British.	*Total.*
1924	2,358,159	2,758,306
1925	2,367,482	2,749,780
1926	2,465,977	3,188,913
1927	2,466,895	3,041,350
1928	3,071,493	3,412,301

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Postal.

In addition to the General Post Office, Hamilton, there are eighteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the islands, each with two mail deliveries a day. The total revenue for the year 1928 was £43,562 and the total expenditure £15,728, showing an excess of revenue over expenditure of £27,834. The chief item of revenue was from the sale of postage stamps, post-cards, etc., which amounted to £38,863, an increase of £3,210 as compared with 1927. It is estimated that £21,000 was realised from the sale of high-value stamps, £19,600 of which represents the value of 10*s.* stamps used principally on steamship passenger tickets.

The principal items of expenditure were :—

	£
Salaries	8,830
Extra Clerical Assistance	1,649
Cost of Daily Inland Mails	1,429

The revenue has steadily increased from £10,313 in 1919 to £43,562 in 1928, the expenditure being in 1919 £7,749 and in 1928 £15,728. The number of foreign mails received during the year was 631, comprising 21,071 bags. The number of foreign mails despatched was 1,338, comprising 8,431 bags.

Parcel Post Service.—The total number of parcels received was 77,922, valued at £164,761, on which the Customs duty amounted to £18,206. The number of parcels despatched was 15,021, valued at £13,570.

Money-Orders and Postal-Orders.—During the year, a total of 25,948 money-orders were issued, to the value of £65,325, while the number paid was 2,023, amounting to £7,716.

The number of postal-orders paid was 2,879, valued at £1,469. Postal-orders issued were 12,117, valued at £6,454.

The number of parcels received from England under the C.O.D. system was 5,137, valued at £14,704.

Savings Bank.—On the 31st December, 1928, the total number of open accounts was 4,449, as compared with 4,169 in 1927, an increase of 280. On the same date the amount to the credit of depositors was £86,719, as compared with £85,635 in 1927, an increase of £1,084.

Interest is calculated at 2½ per cent. The amount of invested funds on behalf of the savings bank on the 31st December, 1928, was £108,273. On that date the total liabilities of the Bank amounted to £86,719 (being the amount due to depositors).

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

During the year, there were 279 committals to prison as against 282 in 1927. Actually, out of this number there were 202 different persons imprisoned, as a number of offenders were committed more than once during the year. The number is made up as follows:—

White	Males	41
	Females	43
Coloured	Males	146
	Females	159

The salaries of the Gaol staff amounted to £2,344, and the amount expended on feeding and clothing prisoners, uniform for staff, etc., amounted to £1,821.

The daily average number of prisoners was 52.50.

The daily average cost of dieting, medical comforts, fuel, etc., was 1*s.* 1¾*d.* per head per diem.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The supply of labour, augmented as usual by prison labour, was good. The total grants for the year amounted to—

(*a*) Recurrent Works £31,335, of which £30,414 was spent, and

(*b*) Extraordinary Works (including channel works and marsh reclamation) £66,885, of which £55,464 was spent.

87.43 per cent. of the total appropriations was expended, compared with 88.38 per cent. in 1927 and 80.22 per cent. in 1926.

Of the Recurrent Works the largest item of expenditure occurred, as in the past few years, under General Repairs to Roads, on which £17,957 was spent out of an appropriation of £18,015.

The largest items under Extraordinary Works, with the amounts expended under each, were as follows :—

	£
Channel Works	28,029
Marsh Reclamation	14,355

The dredger " King George " was worked for 222 days exclusive of 770 hours' overtime, and the Rockbreaker was employed on 262 days.

The amount of material removed during the year was 149,210 tons.

Dredging operations were confined chiefly to the following :—

Narrows Ship Channel,
Town Cut Channel,
Albuoy's Point,
Flatts Inlet.

Work was continued on the reclamation of the marshes in Pembroke Parish. The grant for 1928 for this service was £18,000, of which £14,355 were expended.

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Eastern Marsh.—The reclamation of a 3½-acre area was completed in May. The construction of a ¾-mile race-course on the reclaimed area was completed at the end of the year. 350 feet of the new concrete canal was constructed on reclaimed land.

Western Marsh.—About 6 acres have been reclaimed. The total area of marsh land reclaimed to final level at the end of the year is 15 acres.

Of the total Public Works expenditure of £85,878, 21.10 per cent. was spent on roads, 37.30 per cent. on channel works, 16.70 per cent. on marsh reclamation, and 24.90 per cent. on general works.

The mileage of the roads is about 105, of which 36 are macadamized.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda rejoices in a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. As stated by the Director of the Health Department in his report for 1927, it is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the islands, so they have always been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

Admissions into the Isolation Hospital, established in January, 1927, of infectious cases were as follows :—

Diphtheria	20
Erysipelas	1
Measles	1
German Measles	2
Mumps	1
Whooping Cough	6

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1925 to 1928 was as follows :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Chicken-pox	20	103	35	67
Diphtheria	17	42	19	32
Measles	3	18	2	9
Mumps	—	3	6	329
Tuberculosis	3	19	12	10
Typhoid...	28	10	14	3
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	3	287
Other Diseases	11	14	24	15

In minor contagious diseases the year has had the highest incidence on record.

The Director of Health reports that the cases of mumps, whooping cough, and measles were brought into the Colony from abroad.

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The number of deaths from infectious diseases was as follows :—

Pneumonia...	42
Whooping Cough	3
Tuberculosis	5

Vital Statistics.

The total population on 31st December, 1928, was estimated to be 31,725, of which the Naval and Military personnel and families are estimated at 841.

The total is made up as follows :—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	8,961	7,436	16,397
Coloured	7,309	8,019	15,328

The following table shows the number of births (excluding still-births) and deaths :—

	White.		*Coloured.*		*Total.*
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Births	127	122	245	244	738
Deaths	59	42	136	121	358

The number of still-births was 33 (8 white and 25 coloured).

The birth-rate per 1,000 of population was, white 16.89, coloured 31.28, all classes 24.34 ; and the death-rate (excluding still-births), white 6.91, coloured 16.37, all classes 11.81.

The deaths under 1 year, excluding still-births, numbered 76 (white 11, coloured 65).

Illegitimate births, including still-births, numbered 121 out of 759 civilian births, equivalent to a rate of 15.90 per cent. (white 4.08 per cent., coloured 21.50 per cent.).

The total number of marriages was 147 (white 52, coloured 93, mixed 2).

King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

This institution was opened in July, 1920. Its management is under the direction of a Board of Governors appointed by the Governor, by whom the medical staff is also appointed. The direct management of the Hospital is under the Medical Superintendent. The nursing staff consists of a matron, assistant matron, 6 sisters, 9 nurses, and 21 pupil nurses. The domestic staff, including orderlies, cooks, and maids, is under the management of the housekeeper, assisted by an assistant housekeeper.

On the 1st January, 63 patients remained who were admitted in 1927. The number of patients admitted, including infants born during 1928, was 1,015, of whom 55 remained at the end of the year.

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Including those left in from 1927 the total number of patients (1,078) is made up as follows :—

White—	
Male	288
Female	453
Coloured—	
Male	140
Female	197

The total number of patient days was 18,561.

Average stay, in days	18.28
Daily average	50.85

318 major and 921 minor operations were performed during the year.

In the Isolation Hospital 34 cases were admitted, viz.:—

Diphtheria	28
Whooping Cough	3
Mumps	1
Measles	2

In the venereal clinic 78 patients received a total of 873 treatments.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

	1927.	1928.
Average enrolment	3,545	3,558
Average attendance...	2,943	2,779
Percentage of average attendance to enrolment.	83	78

The total number of resident children of school age on 31st December, 1928, was 2,991, as compared with 2,876 in 1927, viz., 2,096 coloured and 895 white.

During the year, 31 schools were in receipt of grants from the Board of Education, 11 being attended by white and 20 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on Education in 1928 was £19,935, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,314
Scholarships	982
Buildings	4,923
General Grant	12,511

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A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

Bermuda is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December.

The first section of a new school for coloured children, to be known as the Central School, was completed in April. Two more sections are to be built, the estimated total cost of the school being £22,000, and will accommodate 1,000 children.

Another school, necessitated by the increasing population amongst the Portuguese in Paget Parish and the vicinity, will be provided shortly for white children.

There are very few certified teachers except the headmasters, and there is no local institute for the training of teachers. The Board of Education have under consideration a scheme for meeting this need.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898–99. This is naturally much out of date and proposals for a new survey are under consideration. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates. As noted in a previous part of this report, the agricultural industry utilizes some 1,236 acres only, divided into 314 farms.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 640 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1927.

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The transfer of land is entirely by deed involving a recital of previous ownerships. It is hoped that this cumbrous and archaic system will be remedied at an early date.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was as usual no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand is normally slightly in excess of the supply. Probably about one-sixth of the labour comes from the West Indies and the same proportion from the Azores. The latter are mainly engaged in agriculture. Wages are from 9*s.* to 11*s.* per diem for unskilled men and 14*s.* to 16*s.* for artisans. Domestic servants are paid from 25*s.* to 40*s.* per week.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Cost of Living.—The cost of living in Bermuda is very high, but this is not due to taxation. Meat, ice, inland transport, and electric current are all more expensive than in other places in similar conditions. Meat costs from 1*s.* 3*d.* a lb., and ice 1*d.* per lb. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s.* for half a mile or less and 8*s.* for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 1*s.* per kilowatt for light and 6d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap is about £200 a year. The cost of living for a single man is about £3 to £6 a week according to standard.

No motor-cars for private use are allowed in the islands.

Meteorological.

The following are the chief figures for 1928 :—

Mean atmospheric pressure ...	30.06 inches.
Mean temperature	70.60°
Mean hourly velocity of wind	11 miles per hour.
Mean relative humidity ...	86 per cent.
Rainfall	73.72 inches.
Difference in average for past nine years.	22.24 inches above average.
Highest temperature	89.80°, September.
Lowest ,, ...	49.20°, November.

Legislation.

The chief measures of importance enacted during the year under review were the following :—

The Dangerous Drugs Act, amending the law in respect of the import, export, manufacture, sale, and use of opium and other dangerous drugs.

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The Aquarium Act, making provision for the administration, control, and maintenance of the new aquarium at the Flatts District.

The Supreme Court Act, providing for three instead of two Sessions of the Court annually.

The Lepers Act, providing for the control of lepers and the establishment of a leper hospital.

The Parliamentary Election Act, consolidating and amending the law relating to Parliamentary Elections.

The Pilot Act, providing for the establishment of a pilot service under Government control.

JOHN TRIMINGHAM,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

BERMUDA,

23*rd September*, 1929.

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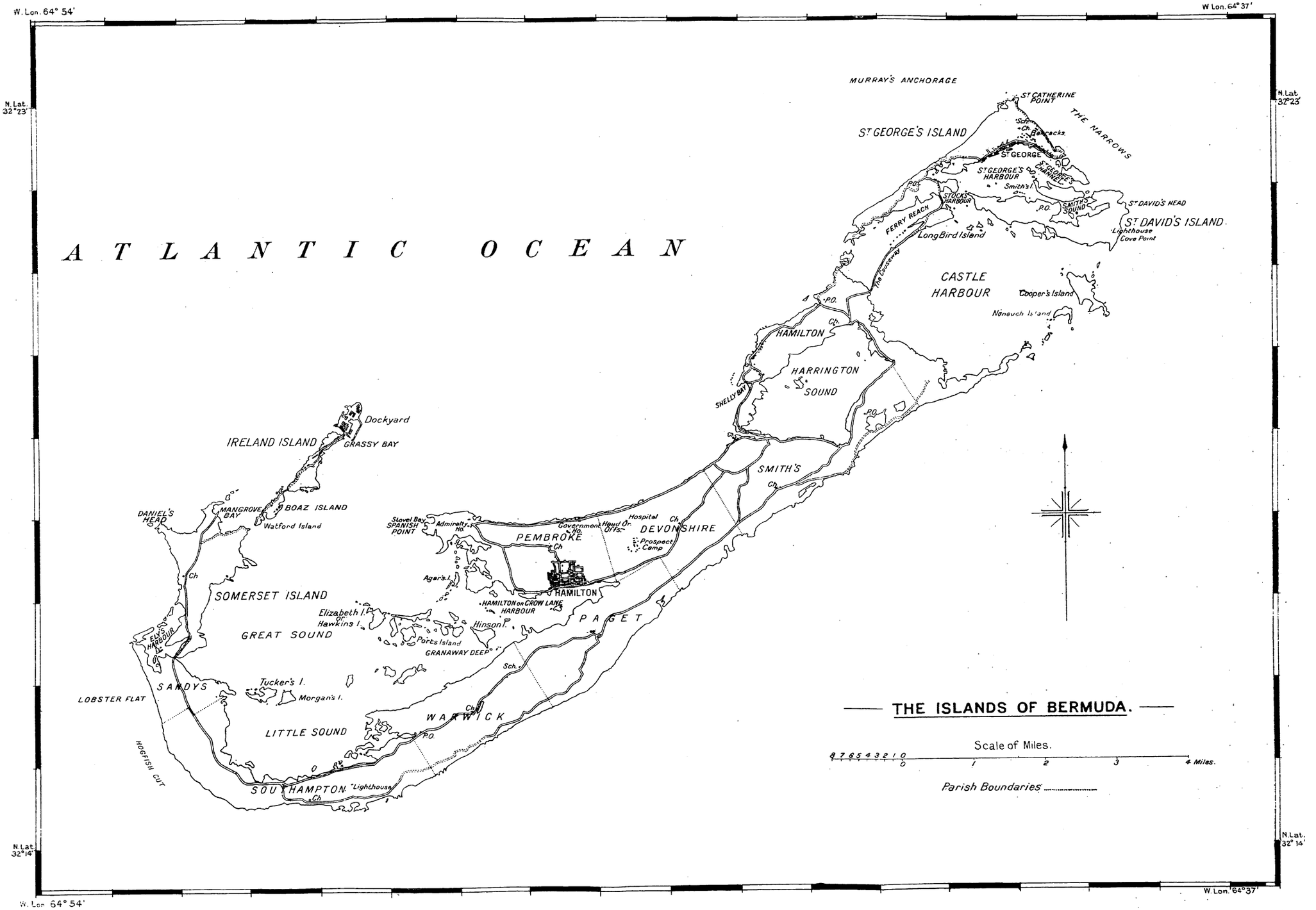

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

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According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship " The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

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When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the Departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

During the year, a report on the possibilities of Bermuda as an Air Port was made by an expert from Imperial Airways, Limited, the report also dealing with the establishment of local aerial services. At the present time the subject is still under consideration by the Legislature.

Proposals were also laid before the Legislature for the complete re-organization of the Post Office Department. This matter was referred to a Select Committee of the House of Assembly, who have, as yet, not reported.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure for the years 1927 and 1928 :—

Revenue.

	1927.	1928.
	£	£
By Customs	196,698	220,398
Miscellaneous...	57,332	71,685
Reimbursements	36,205	28,666
	£290,235	£320,749

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Expenditure.

1927.	£	1928.	£
Personal Emoluments	71,201	Personal Emoluments	77,400
Other Charges ...	217,219	Other Charges ...	226,242
	£288,420		£303,642

The above figures include the following items of Extraordinary Receipts and Expenditure, viz :—

1927.

Receipts.	£	*Expenditure.*	£
Loan under inscribed Stock.	20,280	Repayment of Loan to Crown Agents.	10,000
Savings Bank—equalising of Assets and Liabilities.	1,145	Marsh Reclamation...	9,925
Marsh Reclamation	10,013		
	£31,438		£19,925

1928.

	£		£
Issue of Bermuda Notes.	2,000	Marsh Reclamation	16,418
Savings Bank ...	11,087		
Marsh Reclamation	13,487		
	£26,574		£16,418

The Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure was therefore :—

	1927. £	1928. £
Revenue	258,797	294,174
Expenditure	268,494	287,224

The revenue from Customs duties in 1928 exceeded that in 1927 by £23,700. Amongst the items in which increases occurred were the following :—

	£
Ad Valorem	4,109
Surtax	1,554
Cigars and Cigarettes	4,541
Malt Liquor	1,003
Rum	2,927
Spirits...	8,320
Export duty on Spirits	2,141

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Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities at the end of 1928 was £140,429. The following is the detailed statement :—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in the Public Treasury on 31st December, 1928.	33,227	18	4
In hands of Crown Agents—Credit under Act 49, 1924.	4,107	0	9
Reserve Fund created under authority of the Bermuda Investment Act, 1921, No. 58, and 1923, No. 36. Nominal value of stock.	20,507	15	7
Superannuation Fund—Nominal value of Stock ...	31,930	3	0
Investments made under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915—Nominal value of Stock.	52,944	2	11
St. David's Island Bridge Investment Account—Nominal value of Stock.	2,275	16	10
Debenture from the Riddell's Bay Golf and Country Club, Ltd., for loan under authority of Act 2, 1925, No. 29.	12,000	0	0
Savings Bank—			
Investments held—Nominal value of Stock. (£ 108,273 16 6)			
Cash in hands of Manager ... (£ 1,882 4 2)			
Balance of advances made to Savings Bank on account of Interest, etc. ... ... (£ — —)	110,156	0	8
	£267,148	18	1

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Bermuda Government £1 Notes issued under the authority of the Government Notes Redemption Act, 1917 (No. 9).	38,000	0	0
Ditto ditto issued 1928	2,000	0	0
Savings Bank—			
Amount due Depositors in Savings Bank ...	86,719	3	0
	126,719	3	0
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	140,429	15	1
	£267,148	18	1

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Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the end of the year was £70,000, viz :—

£50,000 redeemable at par in 1950, incurred in 1920 and 1925 to meet certain public liabilities.

£20,000 redeemable at par in 1959, incurred in 1927 for repayment of loan by Crown Agents and for channel works.

The rate of interest payable is 5 per cent. in each case.

The nominal value of Stock representing investments in Sinking Fund at end of 1928 was £24,582.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The year under review was less favourable to agriculture than was the preceding year. Slightly larger crops were reaped, but prices in New York, the principal market, were below those in 1927.

The quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported during the last ten years were as follows :—

	Bushels.
1919	538,126
1920	513,938
1921	470,225
1922	379,082
1923	318,761
1924	416,604
1925	313,280
1926	426,896
1927	371,887
1928	420,802

The quantity exported in 1928 was 113 per cent. of the previous year's export and 102 per cent. of the average of the last ten years.

The gross value of the exported crops exclusive of lily bulbs was as follows :—

	Vegetables.	*Lily Bulbs.*
	£	£
To Great Britain	—	400
,, Canada	6,961	627
,, United States of America	148,996	14,583
,, Other Countries	—	117

The principal items and their values comprised in the above Table were as follows :—

	£
To Canada—	
Onions	3,502
To United States of America—	
Potatoes	76,562
Celery	21,532
Parsley	18,723
Kale	12,962
Carrots	11,325

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The estimated local value of all agricultural products during the last five years was :—

	£
1924	366,000
1925	270,500
1926	375,526
1927	324,128
1928	281,938

The value of agricultural products for 1928 as shown above is made up as follows :—

	£
Exported (£86,601 to U.S.A.)...	91,938
Consumed locally (including milk, eggs, and meat).	190,000

Agricultural exports were divided among the four markets approximately as follows :—

	Per Cent.
Great Britain	0.1
Canada	4.0
British West Indies	0.9
United States of America	95.0

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1928 was £1,764,485, as compared with £1,782,752 in 1927 and £1,644,377 in 1926.

Imports.

The total values of the imports were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
From the United Kingdom ...	471,704	436,801
,, British Possessions ...	370,420	296,497
,, Foreign Countries ...	745,346	799,496

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :— Boots and Shoes, £35,013 ; Butter, £41,071 ; Beef, £52,569 ; Bran, £36,656 ; Canned Goods, £33,595 ; Clothing, £22,029 ; Cotton Goods, £48,131 ; Electrical Goods, £30,297 ; Fancy Goods, £184,695 ; Flour, £29,980 ; Furniture, £33,144 ; Groceries, £43,296 ; Hardware, £45,995 ; Meats, £46,866 ; Oats, £42,006 ; Poultry and Meats, £35,085 ; Woollen Goods, £35,095 ; Fruit (fresh), £29,880 ; Malt Liquor, £29,220 ; Whisky, £85,490.

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Exports.

The total value of the exports for 1928 was £177,015, as compared with £249,958 in 1927 and £239,553 in 1926, made up as follows :—

	£
To the United Kingdom	11,252
,, British Colonies	47,582
,, Foreign Countries	118,181

The chief articles of export with their declared values were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
Empty Oil Barrels	14,742	17,530
Lily Bulbs	22,122	16,772
Potatoes	39,172	97,360
Other Vegetables	76,635	104,136

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 3,412,301 tons, an increase of 370,951 tons compared with 1927.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

	British.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	1,532,164	2,473	1,534,637
Cleared	1,534,116	2,740	1,536,856
Total British Shipping			3,071,493

	Foreign.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	163,417	7,746	171,163
Cleared	162,361	7,284	169,645
Total Foreign Shipping			340,808

The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

	British.	*Total.*
1924	2,358,159	2,758,306
1925	2,367,482	2,749,780
1926	2,465,977	3,188,913
1927	2,466,895	3,041,350
1928	3,071,493	3,412,301

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Postal.

In addition to the General Post Office, Hamilton, there are eighteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the islands, each with two mail deliveries a day. The total revenue for the year 1928 was £43,562 and the total expenditure £15,728, showing an excess of revenue over expenditure of £27,834. The chief item of revenue was from the sale of postage stamps, post-cards, etc., which amounted to £38,863, an increase of £3,210 as compared with 1927. It is estimated that £21,000 was realised from the sale of high-value stamps, £19,600 of which represents the value of 10*s.* stamps used principally on steamship passenger tickets.

The principal items of expenditure were :—

	£
Salaries	8,830
Extra Clerical Assistance	1,649
Cost of Daily Inland Mails	1,429

The revenue has steadily increased from £10,313 in 1919 to £43,562 in 1928, the expenditure being in 1919 £7,749 and in 1928 £15,728. The number of foreign mails received during the year was 631, comprising 21,071 bags. The number of foreign mails despatched was 1,338, comprising 8,431 bags.

Parcel Post Service.—The total number of parcels received was 77,922, valued at £164,761, on which the Customs duty amounted to £18,206. The number of parcels despatched was 15,021, valued at £13,570.

Money-Orders and Postal-Orders.—During the year, a total of 25,948 money-orders were issued, to the value of £65,325, while the number paid was 2,023, amounting to £7,716.

The number of postal-orders paid was 2,879, valued at £1,469. Postal-orders issued were 12,117, valued at £6,454.

The number of parcels received from England under the C.O.D. system was 5,137, valued at £14,704.

Savings Bank.—On the 31st December, 1928, the total number of open accounts was 4,449, as compared with 4,169 in 1927, an increase of 280. On the same date the amount to the credit of depositors was £86,719, as compared with £85,635 in 1927, an increase of £1,084.

Interest is calculated at 2½ per cent. The amount of invested funds on behalf of the savings bank on the 31st December, 1928, was £108,273. On that date the total liabilities of the Bank amounted to £86,719 (being the amount due to depositors).

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

During the year, there were 279 committals to prison as against 282 in 1927. Actually, out of this number there were 202 different persons imprisoned, as a number of offenders were committed more than once during the year. The number is made up as follows:—

White	Males	41
	Females	43
Coloured	Males	146
	Females	159

The salaries of the Gaol staff amounted to £2,344, and the amount expended on feeding and clothing prisoners, uniform for staff, etc., amounted to £1,821.

The daily average number of prisoners was 52.50.

The daily average cost of dieting, medical comforts, fuel, etc., was 1*s*. $1\frac{3}{4}$*d*. per head per diem.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The supply of labour, augmented as usual by prison labour, was good. The total grants for the year amounted to—

(*a*) Recurrent Works £31,335, of which £30,414 was spent, and

(*b*) Extraordinary Works (including channel works and marsh reclamation) £66,885, of which £55,464 was spent.

87.43 per cent. of the total appropriations was expended, compared with 88.38 per cent. in 1927 and 80.22 per cent. in 1926.

Of the Recurrent Works the largest item of expenditure occurred, as in the past few years, under General Repairs to Roads, on which £17,957 was spent out of an appropriation of £18,015.

The largest items under Extraordinary Works, with the amounts expended under each, were as follows :—

	£
Channel Works	28,029
Marsh Reclamation	14,355

The dredger " King George " was worked for 222 days exclusive of 770 hours' overtime, and the Rockbreaker was employed on 262 days.

The amount of material removed during the year was 149,210 tons.

Dredging operations were confined chiefly to the following :—

Narrows Ship Channel,
Town Cut Channel,
Albuoy's Point,
Flatts Inlet.

Work was continued on the reclamation of the marshes in Pembroke Parish. The grant for 1928 for this service was £18,000, of which £14,355 were expended.

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Eastern Marsh.—The reclamation of a 3½-acre area was completed in May. The construction of a ¾-mile race-course on the reclaimed area was completed at the end of the year. 350 feet of the new concrete canal was constructed on reclaimed land.

Western Marsh.—About 6 acres have been reclaimed. The total area of marsh land reclaimed to final level at the end of the year is 15 acres.

Of the total Public Works expenditure of £85,878, 21.10 per cent. was spent on roads, 37.30 per cent. on channel works, 16.70 per cent. on marsh reclamation, and 24.90 per cent. on general works.

The mileage of the roads is about 105, of which 36 are macadamized.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda rejoices in a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. As stated by the Director of the Health Department in his report for 1927, it is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the islands, so they have always been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

Admissions into the Isolation Hospital, established in January, 1927, of infectious cases were as follows :—

Diphtheria	20
Erysipelas	1
Measles	1
German Measles	2
Mumps	1
Whooping Cough	6

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1925 to 1928 was as follows :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Chicken-pox	20	103	35	67
Diphtheria	17	42	19	32
Measles	3	18	2	9
Mumps	—	3	6	329
Tuberculosis	3	19	12	10
Typhoid...	28	10	14	3
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	3	287
Other Diseases	11	14	24	15

In minor contagious diseases the year has had the highest incidence on record.

The Director of Health reports that the cases of mumps, whooping cough, and measles were brought into the Colony from abroad.

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The number of deaths from infectious diseases was as follows :—

Pneumonia...	42
Whooping Cough	3
Tuberculosis	5

Vital Statistics.

The total population on 31st December, 1928, was estimated to be 31,725, of which the Naval and Military personnel and families are estimated at 841.

The total is made up as follows :—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	8,961	7,436	16,397
Coloured	7,309	8,019	15,328

The following table shows the number of births (excluding still-births) and deaths :—

	White.		*Coloured.*		*Total.*
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Births	127	122	245	244	738
Deaths	59	42	136	121	358

The number of still-births was 33 (8 white and 25 coloured).

The birth-rate per 1,000 of population was, white 16.89, coloured 31.28, all classes 24.34 ; and the death-rate (excluding still-births), white 6.91, coloured 16.37, all classes 11.81.

The deaths under 1 year, excluding still-births, numbered 76 (white 11, coloured 65).

Illegitimate births, including still-births, numbered 121 out of 759 civilian births, equivalent to a rate of 15.90 per cent. (white 4.08 per cent., coloured 21.50 per cent.).

The total number of marriages was 147 (white 52, coloured 93, mixed 2).

King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

This institution was opened in July, 1920. Its management is under the direction of a Board of Governors appointed by the Governor, by whom the medical staff is also appointed. The direct management of the Hospital is under the Medical Superintendent. The nursing staff consists of a matron, assistant matron, 6 sisters, 9 nurses, and 21 pupil nurses. The domestic staff, including orderlies, cooks, and maids, is under the management of the housekeeper, assisted by an assistant housekeeper.

On the 1st January, 63 patients remained who were admitted in 1927. The number of patients admitted, including infants born during 1928, was 1,015, of whom 55 remained at the end of the year.

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Including those left in from 1927 the total number of patients (1,078) is made up as follows :—

White—	
Male	288
Female	453
Coloured—	
Male	140
Female	197

The total number of patient days was 18,561.

Average stay, in days	18.28
Daily average	50.85

318 major and 921 minor operations were performed during the year.

In the Isolation Hospital 34 cases were admitted, viz.:—

Diphtheria	28
Whooping Cough	3
Mumps	1
Measles	2

In the venereal clinic 78 patients received a total of 873 treatments.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

	1927.	1928.
Average enrolment	3,545	3,558
Average attendance...	2,943	2,779
Percentage of average attendance to enrolment.	83	78

The total number of resident children of school age on 31st December, 1928, was 2,991, as compared with 2,876 in 1927, viz., 2,096 coloured and 895 white.

During the year, 31 schools were in receipt of grants from the Board of Education, 11 being attended by white and 20 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on Education in 1928 was £19,935, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,314
Scholarships	982
Buildings	4,923
General Grant	12,511

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A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

Bermuda is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December.

The first section of a new school for coloured children, to be known as the Central School, was completed in April. Two more sections are to be built, the estimated total cost of the school being £22,000, and will accommodate 1,000 children.

Another school, necessitated by the increasing population amongst the Portuguese in Paget Parish and the vicinity, will be provided shortly for white children.

There are very few certified teachers except the headmasters, and there is no local institute for the training of teachers. The Board of Education have under consideration a scheme for meeting this need.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898–99. This is naturally much out of date and proposals for a new survey are under consideration. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates. As noted in a previous part of this report, the agricultural industry utilizes some 1,236 acres only, divided into 314 farms.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 640 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1927.

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The transfer of land is entirely by deed involving a recital of previous ownerships. It is hoped that this cumbrous and archaic system will be remedied at an early date.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was as usual no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand is normally slightly in excess of the supply. Probably about one-sixth of the labour comes from the West Indies and the same proportion from the Azores. The latter are mainly engaged in agriculture. Wages are from 9*s.* to 11*s.* per diem for unskilled men and 14*s.* to 16*s.* for artisans. Domestic servants are paid from 25*s.* to 40*s.* per week.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Cost of Living.—The cost of living in Bermuda is very high, but this is not due to taxation. Meat, ice, inland transport, and electric current are all more expensive than in other places in similar conditions. Meat costs from 1*s.* 3*d.* a lb., and ice 1*d.* per lb. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s.* for half a mile or less and 8*s.* for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 1*s.* per kilowatt for light and 6d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap is about £200 a year. The cost of living for a single man is about £3 to £6 a week according to standard.

No motor-cars for private use are allowed in the islands.

Meteorological.

The following are the chief figures for 1928 :—

Mean atmospheric pressure ...	30.06 inches.
Mean temperature	70.60°
Mean hourly velocity of wind	11 miles per hour.
Mean relative humidity ...	86 per cent.
Rainfall	73.72 inches.
Difference in average for past nine years.	22.24 inches above average.
Highest temperature	89.80°, September.
Lowest ,, ...	49.20°, November.

Legislation.

The chief measures of importance enacted during the year under review were the following :—

The Dangerous Drugs Act, amending the law in respect of the import, export, manufacture, sale, and use of opium and other dangerous drugs.

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The Aquarium Act, making provision for the administration, control, and maintenance of the new aquarium at the Flatts District.

The Supreme Court Act, providing for three instead of two Sessions of the Court annually.

The Lepers Act, providing for the control of lepers and the establishment of a leper hospital.

The Parliamentary Election Act, consolidating and amending the law relating to Parliamentary Elections.

The Pilot Act, providing for the establishment of a pilot service under Government control.

JOHN TRIMINGHAM,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

BERMUDA,

23*rd September*, 1929.

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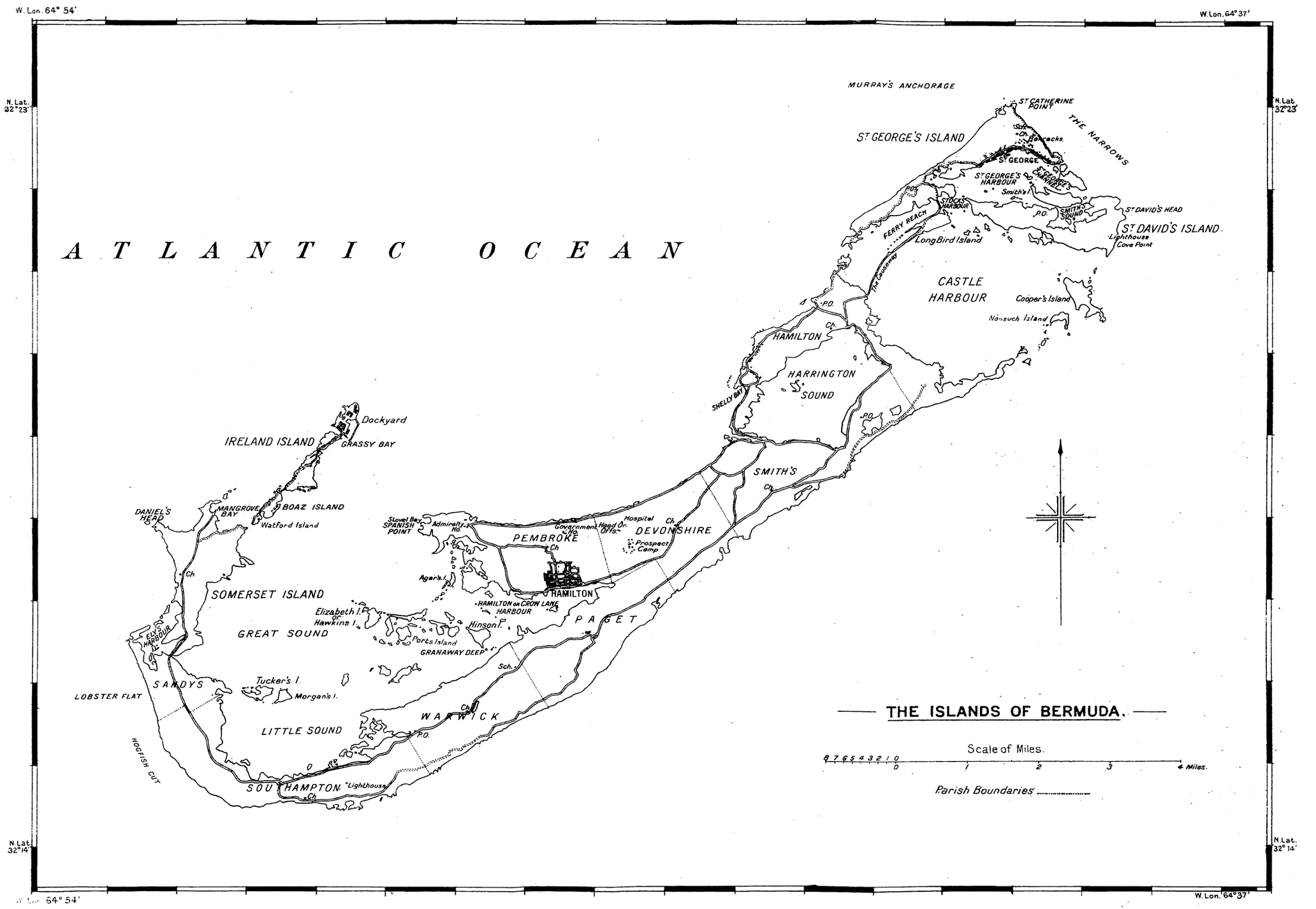

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922 [Cmd. 1679]. 3*s.* 0*d.* (3*s.* 2*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL ENTOMOLOGICAL CONFERENCE. June, 1925. [Cmd. 2490.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 1½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE. 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9½*d.*).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies. [Cmd. 3234.] 6*s.* 0*d.* 6*s.* 5*d.*).

MALAYA, CEYLON, AND JAVA.
Report by the Rt. Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore on his visit during the year 1928. [Cmd. 3235.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9*d.*).

COLONIAL VETERINARY SERVICE.
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REPORT FOR 1928

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NORTHERN RHODESIA.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1928.

PREFACE.

The territory known as the Protectorate of Northern Rhodesia lies between longitudes 22° E. and 33° 33′ E. and between latitudes 8° 15′ S. and 18° S. It is bounded on the west by Angola, on the north-west by the Belgian Congo, on the north-east by Tanganyika Territory, on the east by the Nyasaland Protectorate and Portuguese East Africa, and on the south by Southern Rhodesia and the mandated territory of South West Africa ; comprising in all an area that is computed to be about 287,950 square miles. The River Zambesi forms the greater part of the southern boundary ; its two main northern tributaries are the Rivers Kafue and Luangwa. With the exception of these river valleys, the territory consists of a table-land varying from 3,000 to 4,500 feet in height, though in the north-eastern portion, and especially in the vicinity of Lake Tanganyika, the altitude is greater.

The little that is known of the early history of Northern Rhodesia is very fragmentary and is gleaned from the accounts of the few intrepid travellers who penetrated into this unknown territory. The curtain of obscurity lifts for a moment when we read the diaries of the Portuguese Governor of Sena, Dr. Lacerda, who led an expedition in 1798 from Tete into Kasembe's country, close to the eastern shores of Lake Mweru. He was followed in the early 19th century by two Portuguese traders, Baptista and José, who brought back stories of the great interior kingdom of the Balunda, which extended from Lake Mweru to the confines of Barotseland and included the whole of the country drained by the Upper Congo and its tributaries. This kingdom is reputed to have lasted from the 16th to the 19th century. Very few historical facts are known about it, but the name of Muati Yamvo, the dynastic title of the Paramount Chief, is associated, like Monomotapa, with many half-legendary stories. Neither of these expeditions was of any very great geographical value and it was not till 1851, when Dr. Livingstone made his great missionary journeys and travelled through Barotseland and visited the Victoria Falls, that the civilized world had its first authentic information of Northern Rhodesia. Other and later explorers who brought back stories of the barbarism of the natives, of the wealth of game, and of the glories of the Victoria Falls were Serpa Pinto, Cameron, Selous, and Arnot.

From the very early days when the hordes of migratory Bantus swept southward from Central and Northern Africa, Northern Rhodesia has been subject to constant invasions from stronger tribes on its borders. So much so, that the vast majority of the

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present native population, though of Bantu origin, is descended from men who themselves invaded this country not earlier than 1700 A.D. One or two small tribes, numbering now only a very few thousand, such as the Masubia on the Zambesi, are all that remain of the inhabitants of Northern Rhodesia prior to that date. Though the story of these invasions has passed into oblivion, their traces remain in the extraordinary number and diversity of races and of languages in the country.

At the present time statistics are available of seventy different tribes resident in the territory, of which the most important are the Awemba (108,310), Achewa (71,488), Angoni (49,131), and Awisa (46,549) in the Eastern Districts; the Barotse (110,079), Batonga (95,818), Balenge (39,675), Balala (38,495), Balovale (31,173), and Bakaonde (30,182) in the Western Districts; and the Asenga (62,385), and Alunda (56,609) members of which are resident in both Eastern and Western Districts. There are said to be 30 distinct native languages in use, of which Chiwemba and Chinyanja have been adopted for educational purposes in the Eastern Districts and Chitonga (closely allied to Chila) and Sikololo in the Western. In addition to these, Chinyanja is in use as the official language of the police, and is probably the language most generally spoken by Europeans; it is, in reality, a Nyasaland language—the word means "Language of the Lake"—but it is also spoken to some extent round Fort Jameson.

The chief invaders of the early part of the 19th century were the Arabs from the north; the Angoni, a branch of the early Zulus who fled from the oppressive tyranny of Tchaka and who settled in the north-east of the territory; and the Makololo, an offshoot of the Basuto family, who, in the beginning of the 19th century, fought their way from the south through Bechuanaland and across the Zambesi under the noted Chief Sebitoani; they conquered the Batoka, the Basubia, and the Barotse and founded a kingdom which was distinguished by a comparatively high degree of social organisation.

The duration of the Makololo kingdom was short. Soon after the death of Sebitoani, the Barotse rebelled and massacred the Makololo to a man. The influence of their occupation is still to be seen in the Sikololo language, which is largely spoken amongst the tribes near the Zambesi. The Barotse under Lewanika enlarged their kingdom by conquering one or two of the surrounding tribes, such as the Bankoya and the Balovale. Beyond these limits their authority was both nebulous and ephemeral. In the year 1890 Lewanika asked for British protection and on the 27th June the Barotse Concession was signed, by which Lewanika recognised the Protectorate of Queen Victoria and gave to the Chartered Company certain mining and commercial rights over the whole of his dominion. Lewanika, on his side, received a yearly subsidy of £2,000.

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During this time the slave trade established by the Arabs continued unchecked. Its baleful influence had gradually spread from the shores of Lake Nyasa and Tanganyika over the whole territory; but with the establishment of a Government post at Abercorn in 1893, the slave trade in this part of Africa received its first serious check. In each succeeding year more Arab settlements on the Lake shore were destroyed. Sir Harry Johnston defeated the Arab Chief Mlozi at Karonga in 1894, and the last caravan of slaves, which was intercepted on its way to the east coast, was released at Fort Jameson in 1898. Even after that, bands of slave raiders were occasionally encountered on the north-east boundary, and skirmishes with them took place as late as 1900; but with the final establishment of the administration of the British South Africa Company the slavers quickly disappeared from the country.

The status of the conquered tribes under Lewanika's dominion was that of a mild form of slavedom. This social serfdom was brought to an end by an edict of Lewanika's, who in 1906 agreed to the emancipation of the slave tribes.

Previous to 1899 the whole territory had been vaguely included in the Charter granted to the British South Africa Company, but in that year the Barotseland-North-Western Rhodesia Order in Council placed the administration of the western portion of the country by the Company on a firm basis; and this was closely followed by the North-Eastern Rhodesia Order in Council of 1900 with similar effect. The two territories were amalgamated in 1911 under the designation of Northern Rhodesia, and the administration of the Company (subject to the exercise of certain powers of control by the Crown) continued until 1924, when, in terms of a settlement arrived at between the Crown and the Company, the administration of the territory was assumed by the Crown, and the first Governor was appointed on 1st April, 1924.

The currency in use consists partly of English coinage and partly of notes of the Southern Rhodesia issue of the Standard Bank of South Africa and Barclay's Bank (Dominion Colonial and Overseas) both of which have branches and agencies in this country. The coins and notes of the Union of South Africa are also current at par.

English weights and measures are employed.

There are considerable climatic differences between various parts of the country. The Zambesi, the Luangwa, and the Kafue valleys experience a much greater humidity and a more trying heat than do the plateaux above 3,500 or 4,000 feet. The hottest months are October and November, before the rains break, when the mean maximum is 97° in the Zambesi valley stations and 85° at plateau stations. The mean maximum for the eight months of the hot season (September to April) is approximately 90.3° with a mean minimum of 64.5° while the corresponding figures for the four months of the cold season (May to August) are 78.7° and 46.6°.

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During 1928 the highest mean maximum recorded at Livingstone for any one month was 97.2° in October and the lowest mean minimum for any one month was 42.8° in July ; at the same station the absolute maximum for the year was 103.6° recorded in October, and the absolute minimum was 37.0° recorded in July. The highest temperature recorded in the territory was 116° at the Barotse National School in October and the lowest was 30° at Solwezi in July.

The rainy season usually commences in November and lasts until April, after which month rain is rarely experienced and then in negligible quantities. Rainfall generally was low during the latter part of the rainy season (January to April) and during February there was a serious drought over the North-Western Districts. There were low rainfalls in October and November, but this improved in December after a drought in the early part of that month.

The temperature was generally below normal and the year may be said to have been colder than has generally been experienced in past years.

I.—GENERAL.

The Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa under the Chairmanship of Sir Edward Hilton Young paid a short visit to the territory during April, 1928. Evidence was taken at Livingstone, Lusaka, and Broken Hill.

The first municipality in Northern Rhodesia was inaugurated at Livingstone on 1st April and Mr. R. Davidson became the first Mayor.

Native affairs have been quiet. The work of the Native Reserves Commission was completed during the year and the areas demarcated as Reserves can be seen on the map accompanying this report.

The territory was to have been visited by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales during the dry season of 1928, but owing to the unfortunate illness of His Majesty the King, since happily restored to health, the tour had to be abandoned before His Royal Highness had reached Northern Rhodesia. His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, however, passed through on his way to Cape Town and enjoyed a certain amount of big game shooting in the North-Eastern Districts of the Territory.

Her Royal Highness Princess Marie Louise also paid a visit to Northern Rhodesia on her way to the Belgian Congo.

The Right Reverend Monsignor Arthur Hinsley, Bishop of Sebastopolis and Rector of the English college at Rome, visited the territory as Visitor Apostolic in Africa on behalf of H.H. the Pope. He inspected the two Roman Catholic Missions operating in Northern Rhodesia.

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A conference of Directors of Native Education was held at Nairobi in November, 1928, and was attended by the Director of Native Education for Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. G. A. S. Northcote was appointed Chief Secretary of Northern Rhodesia and arrived in February, 1928.

Immigrants into Northern Rhodesia in 1928, exclusive of natives, numbered 1,066, of whom 929 were British subjects. The following comparative figures of immigration, exclusive of visitors, are indicative of the increasing progress being made by the territory :—

1923	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
260	438	474	756	1,038	1,066.

Eighteen persons were deported, 5 having criminal records, 8 being indigent, and 5 illiterate. Of these deportees 5 were natives. No figures of emigration are available.

Eight hundred and fifty natives are reported to have immigrated into the territory during the year ; most of these came from Angola, Mozambique, and the Belgian Congo.

II.—FINANCE.

Prior to the year under review the financial history of the territory records an unbroken series of annual deficits. It is satisfactory to be able to record that the financial year 1928–29 shows a surplus of revenue over expenditure of £16,438. The expansion in revenue has been well maintained, the percentage of increase exceeding that for the previous year. This is attributable to the development, now in progress, of the mineral wealth of Northern Rhodesia, particularly to the development of the rich copper ore deposits that have been discovered in the Ndola District.

The revenue from all sources for the year amounted to £541,606, an increase of £66,923 or 14.1 per cent. over the previous year. Revenue from Customs duties produced £175,964, an increase of £29,463 or 20.1 per cent. Licences, taxes, and internal revenue produced £245,942, an increase of £25,153 or 11.4 per cent. mainly due to substantial increase under native tax and income tax. Fees of Court or Office produced £50,335, an increase of £33,363 or 50.9 per cent. mainly accounted for by larger receipts under mining revenue and registration of natives and by certain unforeseen items. Post Office revenue of £38,789 shows an increase of 18 per cent. The steady expansion of postal business, noticeable in previous years, is being maintained. Rent of Government property declined from £10,666 to £10,208, due to the fact that the acreage of land that has passed under final title exceeds the acreage of land taken up under permits of occupation. Interest, £1,299, is less by £793 owing to smaller surplus cash balances held. Miscellaneous, £9,459, compares with £9,671 collected in the previous year in which there were exceptionally large receipts under sales of ivory. Land sales

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amounted to only £10,059, a decline of £9,125, attributable to agricultural depression which prevented several farmers from completing the purchase of their farms. The revenue from plot sales was normal.

The expenditure for the year amounted to £525,168 compared with the sanctioned estimate of £549,488 or a net saving of £24,320. Substantial savings occurred under practically all heads of expenditure due to economy which has contributed towards the attainment of a satisfactory surplus ; an excess of £5,632 occurred under pensions and gratuities mainly due to the payment of death gratuities to the personal representatives of six deceased officers.

Extraordinary expenditure amounted to £28,769 and besides a substantial programme of buildings included the cost of an aerial survey of the Rhodesia Congo Border Concession.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO THE END OF MARCH, 1929.

Head of Expenditure.	*Actual Expenditure to 31st March, 1929.*
	£
1. The Governor	6,963
2. Secretariat	7,659
3. European Education	19,141
4. Printing and Stationery	6,611
5. Department of Native Affairs	15,283
6. District Administration	105,036
7. Treasury and Income Tax	11,410
8. Customs	9,035
9. Posts and Telegraphs	31,496
10. Lands Department	15,968
11. Survey Department	10,596
12. Audit Office	3,482
13. Judicial	5,237
14. Attorney-General	4,222
15. Northern Rhodesia Police	64,089
16. Prisons	12,659
17. Health	47,742
18. Veterinary	19,007
19. Agriculture	11,485
20. Mines Department	2,447
21. Public Works Department	7,586
22. Public Works Annually Recurrent	21,477
23. Percentage of Tax	8,400
24. Miscellaneous Services	14,875
25. Pensions and Gratuities	30,632
26. Interest Account	3,861
Total Ordinary	£496,399

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Extraordinary :	£
27. Printing and Stationery	1,305
28. Survey Department	5,148
30. Public Works	22,316
Grand Total	£525,168

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTUAL REVENUE TO THE END OF MARCH, 1929.

Head of Revenue.	*Actual Revenue to 31st March*, 1929. £
1. Customs	175,964
2. Licences, Taxes and Internal Revenue ...	245,492
3. Fees of Court or Office, etc.	50,335
4. Post Office	38,789
5. Rent of Government Property	10,208
6. Interest	1,299
7. Miscellaneous	9,460
Total	£531,547
8. Land Sales	10,059
Grand Total	£541,606

The surplus for the year, therefore, amounted to £16,438.

The following statement gives the financial position as at 31st March, 1929 :—

	£
Excess of Assets over Liabilities at 1st April, 1928	80,781
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure, 1928–1929	16,438
Excess of Assets over Liabilities at 31st March, 1929	£97,219

The following is a statement of assets and liabilities as at 31st March, 1929 :—

Liabilities.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Deposits	33,075	14	1
Post Office Savings Bank	6,103	10	4
Administrator-General and Registrar ...	5,429	2	8
Crown Agents for the Colonies :—			
Overdraft	113,000	0	0
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	97,218	16	6
	£254,827	3	7

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Assets.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash	77,352	7	4
Investments	5,000	0	0
Administrator-General and Registrar ...	5,429	2	8
Advances pending receipt of Loan Funds :—			
Roads and Bridges	74,584	17	11
Central Research	18,370	18	5
Zambesi Survey	3,250	0	0
Advances	44,189	4	11
Unallocated Stores	26,650	12	4
	£254,827	3	7

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.* *Ordinary.*	*Extraordinary.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1924–25	309,795	325,778	14,549	340,327
1925–26	371,046	372,847	21,298	394,145
1926–27	421,035	421,584	33,867	455,451
1927–28	474,683	475,175	43,631	518,806
1928–29	541,606	496,399	28,769	525,168

In addition to the recurrent and extraordinary expenditure, the Government expended during 1928–1929 £46,601 on development schemes in anticipation of loan funds under the Palestine and East African Guaranteed Loan. The total amount sanctioned by the Legislative Council is £224,000 of which £49,604 was expended during 1927-1928 making a total of £96,205 expended at the 31st March, 1929. This expenditure is at present financed by advances from the Crown Agents. The development schemes that are being undertaken by the Government are :—

(1) The construction of arterial roads, including necessary bridges and pontoons, estimated to cost £185,000.

(2) The construction of a Central Research Station at Mazabuka for the Agricultural and Veterinary Departments, the estimated cost of which is £30,000.

(3) The aerial survey of a part of the Zambesi river at a total cost of £6,500.

(4) The establishment of a port at Mpulungu on Lake Tanganyika costing £2,500.

The Banks that operate in Northern Rhodesia are the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, which has branches at Livingstone, Lusaka, Mazabuka, Broken Hill, and Ndola, and Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) which has branches at Livingstone, Lusaka, Broken Hill, Ndola, Fort Jameson, and Bwana M'Kubwa. The total of the amounts deposited at these Banks at the 31st December, 1928, was £545,463 as compared with £519,035 at the 31st December, 1927.

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The Post Office Savings Bank has increased its operations, the deposits at 31st December, 1928, amounting to £5,408 as compared with £4,650 at 31st December, 1927. During the year, the amount invested on behalf of depositors increased from £4,000 to £5,000. The sums deposited during 1928 amounted to £5,780 as compared with £5,669 in 1927. At the 31st December, 1928, there were 366 depositors, a net increase of 90 for the year. It is apparent, therefore, that the Savings Bank is growing in popularity and provides a much needed service.

III.—PRODUCTION.

A.—Land and Agriculture.

Of the total approximate area in the territory of 184,288,000 acres, the North Charterland Exploration Company holds a concession over 6,400,040 acres, subject to the assignment of native reserves amounting at present to 2,148,440 acres. The British South Africa Company owns, subject to the assignment of native reserves of 1,094,475 acres, three freehold areas in Tanganyika District comprising 2,758,400 acres. 2,753,023 acres have been otherwise alienated for purposes of European settlement, not including 32,321 acres of land leased without option to purchase. The total area of alienated land is, therefore, 11,943,783 acres, about 6½ per cent. of the whole territory.

Most of the alienated land is used for grazing, some of it is cultivated, but a large area is unsuitable for either grazing or cultivation owing to the absence of water. The following table will give a comparative idea of the acreage of the various staple crops under cultivation in the five previous seasons :—

Season.	*Maize.*	*Tobacco.*	*Wheat.*	*Cotton.*	*Total under cultivation.*
	Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
1923–24 ...	42,377	2,462	1,250	2,331	52,243
1924–25 ...	35,568	4,323	2,633	16,702	61,712
1925–26 ...	36,470	4,939	3,387	11,849	60,297
1926–27 ...	44,837	6,719	2,780	693	69,837
1927–28 ...	43,889	7,339	1,819	286	62,928

Smaller areas were planted with fodder crops, ground-nuts, potatoes, kaffir corn, oats, etc., which are considered minor crops.

Climatic conditions were again somewhat unfavourable to the European agricultural community, the rainfall for the season 1927–28 being below the average. Early rains fell in some districts, but not in others, where planting was delayed in consequence. Later rains allowed crops to obtain a good start and satisfactory stands resulted in most districts. During February the climatic conditions were most unfavourable. Cloudless skies and intense heat were

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experienced and rain was recorded only at five stations in the settled area adjoining the railway line, where the rainfall was 2.13 inches, as compared with an average of 6.82 inches during a normal season. It was feared, at one time, that an almost total failure of crops would result. Good rains, early in March, saved the situation in all but isolated groups of farms. In view of the conditions which were experienced the results must be looked upon as satisfactory, but a general lowering of yields has resulted.

The maize crop amounted to 183,870 bags. The yield being 4.9 bags per acre, as compared with 250,068 bags and an average of 5.5 bags per acre for the previous season, which was the highest on record. The acreage abandoned rose from 1,904 in 1926–27 to 3,836 for 1927–28. This increase of 100 per cent., and the lower yield, were almost entirely due to the prolonged drought in February. Allowing for this setback, the yield was, on the whole, satisfactory. The tendency which has been prevalent to plant ever-increasing acreages is being slowly displaced by a policy of reasonable acreages well planted and fertilized. The continuance of such a policy must, in time, result in great advantage to the grower and increase in yields.

The following table gives maize statistics from 1921 onwards :—

Year ending 31st December.	*Acreage, in thousands of acres*	*Average yield per acre.*	*Yield, in thousands of bags.*	*Farm consumption, in thousands of bags.*	*Surplus available for sale, in thousands of bags.*
1921	29	4·88	145	18	127
1922	25	3·49	99	18	81
1923	38	5·18	199	32	167
1924	35	3·08	129	28	101
1925	36	2·67	95	23	72
1926	36	4·87	177	37	140
1927	44	5·50	250	36	214
1928	43	4·59	183	32	151

The above figures are exclusive of native-grown maize of which o reliable statistics are available.

After satisfying all local requirements, the maize grown has supplied a considerable amount for export to the Belgian Congo. A large amount of the farm-grown maize is handled by a co-operative society, which, in the past, has secured large contracts for the Congo mines, and it is hoped that similar contracts will be obtained in the future. Owing to the development in mining areas in the territory, the local demand for maize has increased very considerably and the general position is satisfactory. The average price of farm-grown maize, which must be regarded as the territory's staple crop, has been about 11*s.* 6*d.* per bag of 200 lb. net.

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The tobacco crop amounted to 3,249,378 lb., of which 2,983,683 lb. was produced in the Fort Jameson district. The variety principally grown is a bright Virginia, and in one of the western districts 18 acres of Turkish were sown, yielding 12,700 lb. The year under review has seen a most distressing change in the position of the tobacco planters in the territory. For some years previous the market in Africa and the United Kingdom has absorbed, at good prices, all the leaf produced, and the industry appeared to be in a prosperous condition. The increase in the acreage planted and in the yields was steady until the season 1927–28. During that season the largest crop ever grown in Northern Rhodesia was produced. Although the increase was considerable, it was in no way comparable to the unparalleled increase which took place in Southern Rhodesia. As a consequence the markets, which had already begun to react to the increased amounts available, became glutted and sales practically ceased. As usual by far the greatest amount of leaf grown in the territory had been produced in the Fort Jameson district, and the planters found themselves in grave financial difficulties. In the farming districts adjoining the railway line the amount of tobacco grown was comparatively small, and in most cases the acreage was reasonable and formed only a portion of more general farming operations. Although the failure to sell the crop has caused the greatest disappointment and inconvenience, in only a few cases has it caused difficulties comparable to those in the Fort Jameson district.

The total acreage planted with wheat was 1,734 and the yield was 8,512 bags, a decrease of 1,046 acres and 2,074 bags on the previous year. Although this is most disappointing, it must be pointed out that the amount of rain which fell in some districts during the season 1927–28 was insufficient to allow many dams to be filled and the acreage under irrigation had to be limited accordingly. Apart from this fact, the position as regards wheat production is unsatisfactory, the decrease in the acreage planted during the last three seasons being 1,653 or nearly as much as the total acreage planted last season. Customs statistics for 1928 are at present available for the months of January to October inclusive only. During that period Northern Rhodesia imported flour to the value of £14,352, and £15,215 worth of flour passed through this territory to the Belgian Congo. At Lusaka there is a mill capable of grinding very large quantities of wheat. It is not suggested for a moment that if an amount of wheaten flour equal to that imported were produced it would find an immediate market. The majority of flours used to-day are composed of blends of different wheats and certain of them have become popular with the public. If we are to enter into competition with these blends a greatly increased organisation will be necessary ; nevertheless, the longer we delay the greater will be the difficulty of obtaining a larger share of the markets than

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we possess at present. Comparative figures for wheat for the past four years are as follows :—

Year.	*Acreage planted.*	*Yield, in Bags of 200 lb. net.*
1925	2,633	9,895
1926	3,387	11,687
1927	2,780	10,586
1928	1,819	8,754

As regards cotton-growing, experience has shown that the variety of seed used in the past is unsuitable for local conditions. The policy of Government, therefore, is to persuade farmers severely to limit the acreage put under cotton until a satisfactory variety of seed is available. To this end experimental work is being actively prosecuted at the research station in close liaison with departments of other Governments and stations of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation in Africa. The information gained during the season 1926–27 was most satisfactory and the position is rendered more hopeful by the fact that the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation have seconded an officer to the department who is devoting the whole of his time to the problem. It may be stated that there is an increasing feeling of optimism that Northern Rhodesia may yet take her place among the cotton-producing colonies. If cotton can be firmly established as a paying rotation crop, it will do much to increase the stability of the whole agricultural industry.

Up to the present coffee planting has been in an experimental stage. It may now be said to be definitely established as an industry. During the season 1926–27 the amount produced was more than six short tons. Almost the whole of this was exported to the United Kingdom and the price obtained was most satisfactory. Last season the amount produced was increased to a total of nearly seven short tons. Increased planting is taking place in the Abercorn district.

There appears to be no reason why coffee planting should not become of considerable importance.

The citrus export trade is increasing rapidly. Last season 3,750 cases of fruit were exported, of which a large proportion went to the Belgian Congo.

The crops grown by natives are at present mainly confined to foodstuffs for their own consumption, though in certain districts, especially in the proximity of the mines, additional quantities are grown for sale. Preliminary investigations have been made with a view to ascertaining whether other economic crops can be introduced to areas remote from the railway line and the mines to enable the

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natives to produce cash crops at their own villages. In the report of the Assistant Agriculturist stationed in the Abercorn district, there appears the following statement :—

> " There is no doubt about the keenness of natives to take up agriculture, but at present they do not see any reason why they should change their methods of growing their foodstuffs because they are able to produce all the food they require."

It is very questionable whether the first portion of the statement can be applied to the natives of the territory in general, but there is no doubt that the latter part expresses most aptly the feelings of the majority. There are, of course, the few who are anxious to copy and benefit by the methods adopted by Europeans, and the number of ploughs which are sold year by year at up-country stores is indicative of the progressive feeling which is being engendered in the minds of those who live in the proximity of settled areas. In the more remote districts very little improvement has taken place. With the exception of certain isolated missions, the attempts at agricultural instruction in the past have been negligible, but there is evidence of a general awakening to the necessity for this work if the native is to remain in a contented state in his own village. It should be unnecessary to state that any agricultural instruction which is to be given should be entrusted to those who are qualified by training to carry it out to the best advantage, and that any change which is brought about should be the result of a thorough understanding of the general principles of progressive agriculture. It would be unwise to endeavour to change the general principles of native agriculture too suddenly. Many of their methods may be, and are, extremely wasteful, but some of them are founded upon ideas which are not unsound and all of them are, at present, established as a part of native tradition.

Although the foundations of a better native agricultural system must be laid by careful instruction in the underlying principles, it is felt that practical illustrations will be of much value and are, indeed, essential. With this in view the department is to undertake the education of selected natives for employment as demonstrators. These natives will reside at, and be members of, the Jeanes School which is being erected on the outskirts of the Research Station at Mazabuka and their technical education will be in the hands of the staff of the station. In the course of time they will be posted to district work under the supervision of the staff of the department or the agriculturists attached to missions.

The year under review has again been a somewhat difficult one for stock owners. The rainy season did not fulfil its early promises and a dry interval, in some districts, in February, and the almost total cessation of rain in early March, caused an inadequate growth of pasture. During the later months of the dry season, and particularly during the period when cold nights were experienced, cattle

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began to lose condition and the losses from poverty, before the early rains brought relief, were heavy. At the end of the year, owing to the early rains, the growth of pasture was sufficient to cause a great improvement in the general condition of stock.

During December a Conference of Representatives of the Cattle Owners' Association and of the Mining interests, was held in Livingstone under the presidency of the Governor, to consider the question of the meat supply in relation to the increased mining development. The general feeling of those present was that, although an actual shortage was not evident at the moment, the time was quickly approaching when Northern Rhodesia would be unable to supply her own demands. A free discussion took place on the whole subject and the members of the Cattle Owners' Association agreed to submit proposals for meeting the situation.

B.—Mining.

The intensive prospecting and development features of previous years were again prominent. The big increase in production which is expected from the big copper discoveries will not be forthcoming for some time.

The Bwana Mkubwa plant treatment has been improved. The new mining machinery has already done much to improve the position in the open cast whilst satisfaction prevails as a result of boreholes to sulphides in depth.

The Nkana Mine, belonging to the same company as Bwana Mkubwa, has been carrying out an extended drilling programme with highly satisfactory results. The proposed branch railway to this mine is under construction.

At the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine the electrolytic zinc plant has been continuously and successfully in operation. Lead ore down to existing water level has been practically worked out and the pumps are now to be lowered a further stage.

Development work at the Roan Antelope Mine has been taking the form of mining preparation for an immense daily output. The branch railway line is through to the mine but preparations for work upon such a considerable scale may take two years to complete.

At the Nchanga Copper Mines Limited the new shaft and cross cut has safely and effectively opened up the deposits. Exploratory drilling has also been done and is continuing.

The attention which has been paid to the development of the Kansanshi Mine during the last two years is yielding satisfaction to the owners, the Rhodesia Katanga Railway Junction and Mineral Company Limited.

Selection Trust Limited and Rhodesian Selection Trust Limited operating in the "Nkana Grant Area" were rewarded with very striking finds of copper sediments similar geologically to the Roan

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Antelope and Bwana Mkubwa deposits but more extensive and richer than either. The uniformity of value in the boreholes put down is also excellent.

Of these discoveries the Mufulira Mine is coming into being with rapidity as work is being concentrated upon it.

The Rhodesian Congo Border Concession Limited and Loangwa Concessions (Northern Rhodesia) Limited (the latter being a recent amalgamation of the previous Loangwa, Kasempa and Serenje concessions) have been in continued operation under the control of the Anglo-American Corporation Limited.

Accurate and detailed geological and topographical maps of the different parts of the territory in which these concessions have been particularly interested to date are being prepared.

Rhodesia Minerals Concession Limited have sublet certain areas to the Luiri gold areas and have pegged gold locations which are to be worked. A plant was erected for this purpose and is being operated.

The following table shows the mineral production during 1928 :—

		£	s.	d.
Gold	602.39 ounces	2,558	15	0
Silver	87.73 ounces	9	12	0
Copper	5,930.43 tons	382,932	10	0
Lead	4,676 tons	98,951	5	0
Mica	7,930 lb.	1,982	10	0
Zinc	13,176.30 tons	331,344	11	0
Vanadium	113,656 lb.	80,979	18	0
Manganese ...	1,792 tons	2,688	0	0
Iron Ore	4,466 tons	2,233	0	0
		£903,680	1	0

The aggregate capital of the mining companies operating in the territory is approximately nine and three-quarter million pounds.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Northern Rhodesia is in the curious position of being divided into two Customs zones. The Northern zone, which is known as the Congo Basin, is governed by the conditions of the Berlin Act of 1885. Goods imported into this zone, therefore, are not subject to the terms of the Agreement with Southern Rhodesia and the Union of South Africa, though the duties imposed are in almost all instances similar to those imposed in the Southern zone, except that equality of trade is granted to all nations. The Zambesi Basin zone, as the latter area is called, is subject to Customs Agreements with Southern

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Rhodesia and with the Union of South Africa, which includes for the purposes of the Customs Agreement the High Commission Territories of Bechuanaland, Basutoland, and Swaziland.

Under the existing Agreement with the Union of South Africa, Northern Rhodesia receives 12 per cent. *ad valorem* on removals from the Union of South Africa of imported goods and 6 per cent. on removals of South African manufactured goods; unmanufactured produce of South Africa is not subject to duty. The minimum sum payable by the Union to this territory is £12,500 per annum. The Union of South Africa charges the actual duty at Union rates on removals from Northern Rhodesia of imported goods, but allows entry free of duty of Northern Rhodesia produce.

Under the Agreement with Southern Rhodesia, the duty on imported goods removed from Southern Rhodesia to Northern Rhodesia is calculated at Northern Rhodesia tariff rates. A deduction of 5 per cent. is made in the case of goods cleared at the port of Beira by the Southern Rhodesia Customs.

There is a free interchange of products and manufactures between Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia, but on Union manufactures in Southern Rhodesia, which are subsequently removed to Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia passes credit to this Government at the rate of 6 per cent. on the original Union value.

Northern Rhodesia grants preferential rates of Customs duty on all goods (with the exception of certain articles, the principal of which are cattle for slaughter, tea, coffee, cocoa, chicory, rice, motor spirit, lubricating and illuminating oils, tobacco, wines, and spirits) shown to have been grown, produced, or manufactured in the United Kingdom or British possessions granting equivalent reciprocal privileges. Such preferences vary in extent from 16 per cent. to 3 per cent. *ad valorem*.

The following summary furnishes a comparison of the value of imports from British and from foreign countries during the years 1926 to 1928:—

Imports from:	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*
	£	£	£
Union of South Africa	245,909	217,063	166,001
Southern Rhodesia	371,469	261,093	258,884
United Kingdom and other British Possessions.	1,135,775	987,502	818,718
Total British Possessions	1,753,153	1,465,658	1,243,603
Foreign Countries	613,164	491,480	423,981
Total merchandise	£2,366,317	£1,957,138	£1,667,584

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The following table illustrates the comparative value of the principal items of imports during the years 1926 to 1928 :—

	1928. £	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
Animals (living)	28,965	41,651	44,530
Foodstuffs, etc.	200,722	173,630	148,733
Ales, Spirits, Wines, etc. (Potable) ...	86,160	76,320	54,088
Spirits (Non-potable)	867	616	474
Tobacco	44,624	38,827	27,519
Textiles, Apparel, Yarns, Fibres	471,114	395,548	376,527
Metals, Metal Manufactures, Machinery, and Vehicles.	902,110	717,710	576,982
Minerals, Earthenware, Glasses, and Cement.	161,993	97,205	104,515
Oils, Waxes, Resins, Paints, and Varnishes	102,982	97,149	76,482
Drugs, Chemicals and Fertilisers	89,396	68,680	55,580
Leather, Rubber and manufactures thereof	53,825	46,086	30,522
Wood, Cane, Wicker and manufactures thereof.	82,311	62,685	56,087
Books, Paper, and Stationery	33,940	26,707	19,703
Jewellery, Timepieces, Fancy Goods, etc.	42,027	34,124	24,470
Miscellaneous...	65,281	80,200	71,372
	£2,366,317	£1,957,138	£1,667,584

The following summary furnishes a comparison of the value of exports to British and to foreign countries during the years 1926 to 1928 (excluding articles exported through the post and specie) :—

	1928. £	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
Union of South Africa	117,966	193,824	161,439
Southern Rhodesia	77,441	77,221	65,543
United Kingdom and other British Possessions.	374,644	272,045	142,761
Total British Empire	570,051	543,090	369,743
Foreign Countries	272,536	202,504	112,728
Total	£842,587	£745,594	£482,471

The following table illustrates the comparative value of the principal items of domestic exports for the years 1926 to 1928 :—

	1928. £	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
Animals (living)	22,456	36,205	52,606
Hides, Skins, and Horns	44,898	21,831	15,591
Ivory	9,911	8,214	7,117
Butter...	431	1,445	1,219
Wheat...	9,218	13,546	18,575
Maize, including other cereals in the grain	29,964	59,711	31,246
Maize Meal	23,488	18,437	10,566
Pulse	—	—	497
Tobacco (unmanufactured)...	100,848	240,568	155,832
Cotton (Raw)	238	—	4,746
Copper	231,304	133,115	23,566

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	1928.	1927.	1926.
	£	£	£
Lead	71,103	88,652	43,284
Vanadium	3,457	6,749	4,498
Other (Ores)	13,277	1,165	2,047
Other (Metals	166,866	—	—
Gold	1,815	1,690	2,697
Silver	23	9	16
Lime	948	1,004	1,072
Curios...	293	354	505
Articles through the post	4,481	9,911	1,911

The trade balance of imports over exports is again very pronounced, amounting to £1,519,249 as compared with £1,201,613 for 1927.

This position is mainly accounted for by the fact that Northern Rhodesia's mining industry is still in the early stages of the development of its vast mineral resources. In connection with this development, importations of metal manufactures, machinery, and railway material again show considerable increases over the figures of previous years, against which the present production from the mines, though on the increase, provides no corresponding set-off. It can, however, be anticipated that the export statistics in future years will show a marked recovery in respect of the trade balance.

The following are the ports of entry into and exit from Northern Rhodesia :—

Livingstone, Ndola, and Fort Jameson (free warehousing ports); Solwezi, Mwinilunga, Nchanga, Balovale, Mufulira, Kazangula, Abercorn, Fort Rosebery, Isoka (Fife), Feira, Chiengi, Mpika.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

A.—Railways.

The principal means of communication is the railway, which, after leaving Livingstone, runs in a north-easterly direction, dividing the country into two nearly equal portions. It is now owned entirely by the Rhodesia Railways Company, which has purchased the section from Broken Hill to Sakania formerly owned by the Rhodesia-Katanga Junction Railway and Mining Company, and is part of a single system which stretches from Vryburg in Bechuanaland and from Beira in Portuguese East Africa through Southern Rhodesia to Sakania in the Belgian Congo. This single line enters the Protectorate by means of a remarkable bridge spanning the Zambesi river gorge at a height of nearly 400 feet and about 400 yards below and within sight of the Victoria Falls. It passes Livingstone, crosses the Kafue river at the station of that name, and enters the Belgian Congo slightly north of Ndola. The total length of line within the territory is 507 miles.

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There is a branch line to the Roan Antelope Copper Mine from Ndola, about 25 miles in length, which was opened for traffic at the end of December, 1928. Legislation has been passed authorising the construction of another branch line from Ndola to the Nkana Copper Mine, and the construction of this line is soon to be undertaken.

B.—Roads.

With the exception of the short road known as the Jameson Road from Livingstone to the Victoria Falls, a distance of seven miles, and the private road of the Broken Hill Mining and Development Company leading from their plant and mine to the hydro-electric power station on the Mulungushi river, some forty-five miles away, there are no macadam constructed roads in the country, and these two only can be described as " all-weather " roads. All the other roads are earth roads, and though the smaller rivers are crossed by bridges made either of bush timber or occasionally of steel rails and the roads are embanked and sometimes gravelled where they cross marsh land, traffic is liable to be interrupted for at least two months in the year, usually in February and March.

In the last three years the mileage of roads passable for from eight to ten months in the year has very considerably increased. The following are the main lines of roads now open :—

The Great North Road runs from Victoria Falls via Livingstone, Mazabuka, Lusaka, Broken Hill, Serenje, Mpika, Chambesi river, where the crossing is effected by pontoon, and Kasama to Abercorn and Lake Tanganyika, a distance of about 1,000 miles. A branch road from near Abercorn to Mwenzo connects with the Tanganyika system and provides direct communication with Tanganyika Territory and Kenya.

A fortnightly steamboat service has been established by the Tanganyika Government on Lake Tanganyika. S.S. " Liemba " (1,200 tons) calls at Mpulungu (26 miles from Abercorn) fortnightly and a road has been made between Abercorn and this port. The " Liemba's " sailings are timed to correspond with the arrivals and departures of trains at Kigoma, thus affording through communication from North-Eastern Rhodesia to the port of Dar-es-Salaam.

The Rhodesian-Congo Border Road leaves the Great North Road near Kapiri Mposhi, and runs in a north-westerly direction via Ndola, Nkana, and N'changa to Solwezi, a distance of about 312 miles. A branch road gives access to the Belgian Congo and Elizabethville. From Solwezi a road runs in a south-westerly direction to Kasempa. It is proposed to extend this to Mumbwa at a future date, and this road will connect with the Great North Road at a point between Broken Hill and Lusaka.

A road, known as the Great East Road, is in course of construction from Lusaka to Fort Jameson. Part of it requires re-siting and it will not, therefore, be completed as early as was hoped.

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Communication with the Mweru-Luapula District is maintained by a road that crosses the pedicule of the Belgian Congo from Ndola to Kapalala.

All these roads have numerous branches leading to farms, missions and Government stations or other points of European settlement in the various districts through which they pass.

The authorisation of the East African Guaranteed Loan, in which Northern Rhodesia shares, has made a scheme of arterial road construction possible. The continual development of the six-wheeled lorry and the roadless tractor is being watched with interest, and it is anticipated that the next few years will see a complete revolution in the existing transport position.

C.—Posts, Telegraphs, and Telephones.

Telegraphic communication exists between the Victoria Falls Bridge and the Belgian Congo, and between intervening stations. The line from Livingstone to Ndola is double, while the remainder is single, the total length of wire being 1,007 miles. There is also a telegraph line from the Nyasaland border to Abercorn and another from the same border further south to Fort Jameson ; the length of wire, which is single, being 149 and 8 miles respectively. Abercorn is also connected by telephone to Kasama, a distance of 108 miles ; and via Kituta to Kalombo on the Tanganyika border, a distance of 21 miles. The Abercorn-Kituta line is to be extended 7 miles to Mpulungu (Msende Bay) on Lake Tanganyika in the near future and will also be connected with the Tanganyika Territory system at an early date.

A telephone service exists at Livingstone and gives continuous day and night service. The larger switchboard installed during 1927 is fully loaded and the provision of additional accommodation to meet the demand for connections is being considered. There is a trunk line from Livingstone to the Victoria Falls Hotel on the Southern Rhodesia side of the Zambesi. There is also a telephone system at Broken Hill, installed by the Rhodesia Broken Hill Development Company, but it has no private subscribers.

Postal work shows a considerable increase and once more reflects the progress that the country has made. During the year, stamps and embossed stationery were sold to the value of £18,200, as compared with £15,778 in the preceding year. Money orders were issued to the value of £46,687, and £27,694 was paid out in respect of money orders issued elsewhere. The corresponding figures for the preceding year were £41,904 and £27,070. Postal orders issued numbered 44,805, worth £24,407, while £9,557 was paid out in respect of 16,827 postal orders. The cash-on-delivery system was used by an increased number of persons, and 4,532 packets, valued at £12,822, were dealt with under it. 17,833 articles were undelivered and passed through the Returned Letter Office. The following table

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shows the quantities of the various kinds of mail matter received and despatched during the year as compared with the figures for the preceding two years :—

Received.

	1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*
Letters	2,193,594	1,796,704	1,489,982
Postcards	50,636	34,540	22,308
Newspapers	667,866	605,592	401,340
Book packets	483,496	325,728	354,042
Parcels	49,010	41,080	33,370
Registered articles	60,112	50,284	37,154

Despatched.

	1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*
Letters	2,564,824	2,167,464	1,464,696
Postcards	79,354	51,376	33,540
Newspapers	134,446	108,316	54,574
Book packets	241,124	174,720	124,418
Parcels	12,246	8,216	6,162
Registered articles	75,458	53,924	34,984

D.—Aircraft.

There is at present no established system of air communication in the territory. There are, however, aerodromes which were prepared by the Imperial Government and are maintained primarily for the use of Air Force Squadrons stationed in Egypt. An annual flight is made between Khartoum and Cape Town.

None of these aerodromes has any ground staff or equipment and they are at present in reality no more than landing grounds.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the High Court of Northern Rhodesia, and by the Magistrates' and Native Commissioners' Courts subject to appeal to and review by the High Court. During the year the High Court dealt with 96 civil matters, as against 78 in the preceding year, and heard 13 actions and 5 appeals. Five petitions in bankruptcy were presented. Sessions were held at Mazabuka, Lusaka, Broken Hill, and Ndola in May and at Mazabuka, Ndola, Broken Hill, Fort Rosebery, Kasama, and Abercorn in October.

Thirty-two criminal cases came before the Court exclusive of reviews of judgments in the lower Courts : these latter numbered 320, of which 215 were confirmed, 21 quashed, 49 altered, 8 cases sent back and subsequently approved ; in the remaining 27 cases the accused were bound over.

The Civil Police and Criminal Investigation Departments were involved in 5,414 prosecutions during the year. An increase of 641 cases as compared with 1927. This is the largest number of

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cases on record since the inauguration of the Civil Police in the territory, and in addition to these many cases are tried at stations where there are no police.

The following figures show the convictions for the more serious crimes, as compared with the figures for 1927 :—

	1928.	*1927.*
Murder	18	9
Manslaughter	9	7
Arson	20	34
Forgery	2	14
Housebreaking and Burglary ...	49	53
Rape	16	4
Assault	394	92
Indecent Assault	19	12

93.5 per cent. of the persons prosecuted were convicted.

Central prisons are established at Livingstone, Broken Hill, Fort Jameson, Kasama, and Mongu, and 1,469 persons were committed to the central prisons of the territory during the year. The daily average of prisoners was 321.

Five natives were executed during the year.

There were nine deaths from natural causes amongst native prisoners in the central prisons as compared with 17 for the year 1927. The average sick was 13.77 as compared with 16.11 for 1927.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year under review, approximately £92,500 (excluding " Personal Emoluments ") was spent upon construction and maintenance, inclusive of works carried out under " Research Loan " and " Road Loan," all the expenditure having been curtailed as far as possible pending the reorganisation of the Public Works Department. That reorganisation was commenced in June when the Public Works Department was separated from the Mines Department. The former was placed under the control of a Director and the branches which previously existed under the heads of " Roads " and " Research " were amalgamated with the parent Department and ceased to function as separate entities. Construction has been reduced to a minimum during the period of reorganisation, which has been effected with a view to producing a Department capable of dealing efficiently with the extensive building programme which will require to be undertaken in the near future.

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The following major works were completed or are nearing completion :—

Livingstone :

Legislative Council Chambers.
Two houses in police lines.
Barracks.
Warder's cottage.
Maternity wing at the hospital.
Mortuary.
Three bungalows.

Provinces :

Hospital and nurses' quarters at Fort Jameson.
Native hospital at Choma.
Drainage at Lusaka (present scheme only).
Choma School.

The construction programme at the Research Station is nearing completion.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Government maintains European hospitals at Livingstone, Lusaka, Broken Hill, Fort Jameson, Kasama, and Mongu. Native hospitals are maintained at these places and also at Abercorn, Choma, Mazabuka, Solwezi, Ndola, and Fort Rosebery. In addition to the above many Mission doctors, hospitals, and dispensaries receive annual subsidies from the Government for medical work in native areas.

During the year, 1,045 Europeans and 8,449 natives were admitted to hospital and there were 31 and 459 deaths respectively among them. No complete records as to the number of patients treated at out-stations are available for either European or native population.

934 out-patients attended at the Livingstone European Hospital. The average attendance of new out-patients at the Livingstone Native Hospital is 120 a month, and the total average attendance about 500 a month.

The native out-patient attendance for the whole territory, therefore, greatly exceeds the estimate of 5,000 mentioned last year.

The following diseases call for comment :—

(a) *Sleeping Sickness.*

Three Europeans have been admitted to hospital with sleeping sickness during the year. A fourth case died at Serenje on the way to hospital. He was seen by Dr. Lloyd, a private practitioner, who diagnosed sleeping sickness, but no slides were taken. These cases were all infected in the Luangwa Valley. Two of them were infected

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while hunting game ; the third case and the fatal case were geologists working in the valley. Dr. Kinghorn toured the Tanganyika sleeping sickness area, but found no cases of sleeping sickness.

Only one native case has been admitted during the year. It is not known definitely that he was ever in the Luangwa valley. It would appear that the natives residing in the valley have acquired some immunity.

(b) *Malaria and Blackwater Fever.*

The following table gives the number of persons admitted to hospital suffering from malaria and blackwater fever, with mortality statistics in each case, as compared with the figures for 1925 and 1926 and 1927 :—

		Malaria:		*Blackwater Fever:*	
Year.	*European Population.*	*Cases.*	*Deaths.*	*Cases.*	*Deaths.*
1928	7,536	304	2	17	5
1927	7,275	272	6	20	5
1926	5,581	262	1	21	7
1925	4,624	211	6	13	7

(c) *Influenza.*

Cases have occurred throughout the territory, but the incidence only assumed serious proportions in Livingstone and Broken Hill.

(d) *Yaws.*

Results of the treatment of yaws with bismuth and sodium tartrate continue to be satisfactory. This disease is chiefly prevalent, as formerly, in the Kasempa, Kafue, and Luapula areas, and also in the Ndola District. Where treatment is available natives apply for it ; many sufferers come from the Zambesi valley for treatment at Choma.

(e) *Leprosy.*

The Native Department statistics for the year show 5,270 known lepers in the territory, an increase of 52 over last year. It is, however, probable that the early cases are not diagnosed.

A system of voluntary segregation in co-operation with the Missionary Societies has been commenced and most useful work is being carried out at Madzi Moyo (Dutch Reformed Mission) and Mwami (7th Day Adventists). Other societies are assisting, and there is in existence an organisation capable of gradual expansion in the future.

(f) *Smallpox.*

This disease has been epidemic during the year and has spread through practically the whole territory. The nature of the disease has been much discussed, and some medical practitioners are still of opinion that there were three diseases prevalent, viz.: chickenpox, alastrim or kaffir-pox, and smallpox. The Principal Medical Officer considers that alastrim or kaffir-pox and variola minor are the same disease. The mortality rate varied considerably in different districts but the disease was usually of a mild type.

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Vaccination figures are not available. It was necessary to employ native vaccinators during the epidemic who were not always capable of keeping records and many Missionary Societies assisted in the work. Medical Officers, travelling hurriedly to outbreaks, often performed vaccination campaigns under circumstances that did not permit of records being kept, and generally the pressure of work on the department caused by the epidemic made it impossible to keep complete records. Southern Rhodesia estimated that 75 per cent. of the vaccinations at Livingstone on natives travelling south were successful, but it is considered that this percentage of successful vaccinations is too high for the whole territory.

(g) *Ankylostomiasis.*

Results of careful examinations at Livingstone confirm the opinion that a high percentage of the native population is suffering from hookworm disease. One Medical Officer using the flotation method for 193 cases found 158 or 81.9 per cent. to be positive, while another found 110 positive cases out of 175 examined, or 62.87 per cent. The flotation method was not used for the first 125 cases of the latter.

(h) *Bilharziasis.*

There is no indication that the incidence of the disease is increasing.

(i) *Chest Complaints.*

Pneumonia is probably the principal factor in the native death rate throughout the territory. It is responsible for the high mortality rate in the Livingstone Native Hospital. The Balovale and Mankoya native is particularly susceptible to this disease, and shows little resistance power to it. The disease is the lobular type, and true lobar pneumonia is now rarely met with.

The general health of the European population was good. The following tables show the vital statistics (European) for 1928 and previous years :—

	1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
No. of deaths	97	72	62	63
Death rate per 1,000	12·87	9·89	11·1	13·7
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	15	18	7	15
Death rate per 1,000 of births in year	76·92	125	49·3	108

195 children were born, of whom 97 were males and 98 females, which represents a crude birth rate of 25.8 per 1,000 as compared with 20 per 1,000 in 1927.

The native population is estimated at 1,261,972. There is no system of birth or death registration possible at present and consequently no figures are available from which vital statistics may be obtained. Infantile mortality is known to be high and has been estimated to be between 40 per cent. and 50 per cent. of children born.

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IX.—EDUCATION.

European Education.

There are five schools providing secondary education up to Standard VII at Livingstone, Choma, Mazabuka, Lusaka, and Broken Hill. Boarding establishments are attached to the schools at Choma and Mazabuka, with accommodation for 25 girls and 20 boys, respectively. The school at Choma opened on the 23rd July and the cost of building was defrayed by the Beit Trustees.

Six schools providing primary education up to Standard V exist at Silver Rest, Chilongolo, Lubombo, Fort Jameson, Bwana Mkubwa, and Luanshya (Roan Antelope Mine).

During 1928, three small aided schools were open for varying portions of the year.

Thirty-two teachers were employed in the schools.

The total enrolment at the close of the school year 1928 was 518 (291 boys and 227 girls), an increase of 38 over the figure for 1927 and 101 over that of 1926. At one period of the year 540 children were attending school.

Native Education.

The education of natives in Northern Rhodesia is at present carried on almost entirely by the Missionary Societies, the Government making some grants in aid and exercising such supervision as is possible through the Director of Native Education, to assist whom two Inspectors have recently been appointed. The most pressing requirement is the training of native teachers and instructors without whom any satisfactory attempt at the education of the native population is impossible. This fact is realised by the Missionary Societies who, encouraged by the grants being made, are endeavouring to bring out more trained European educationists as members of their staffs. Generally the progress made at village schools has not been encouraging, but with the fuller provision of qualified native teachers and sympathetic visitation of mission schools by trained European educationists it is hoped that better results will ensue.

The first departmental examination for teachers' certificates was held in June, 1928, and out of 261 entrants 113 passed.

A generous grant by the Trustees of the Beit Railway Trust has enabled the Department to start at Mazabuka a Jeanes school for training native Visiting Teachers and an agricultural school for training native Agricultural Demonstrators and Instructors. A Principal has been appointed, the layout decided upon, and it is hoped that sufficient buildings will be ready to start the schools in September, 1929.

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A further grant of £1,000 a year for five years from the same Trustees has been divided between three missions to assist them in getting out two Agriculturists and one Industrial Superintendent for the training of natives.

The visit of Monsignor Hinsley to Northern Rhodesia during the year should result in increased interest being taken by the two Roman Catholic Missions in this territory in education, and perhaps in increased funds for their educational work.

The London Missionary Society at Mbereshi started, during the year, under Dr. Margaret Morton, its Maternity Training and Baby Welfare Clinic, an enterprise full of promise for the future. Working in conjunction with, and as a development of, the Girls' Boarding School there, it has exceptional opportunities.

Dr. Chisholm trained six educated natives as health agents and sanitary inspectors and they started work under the control of the District Officer in February, 1929. It will be interesting to see what success they have.

Two long tours were made by members of the Department in the Kasempa, Luangwa, and Kafue districts which had not been previously visited by an Education Officer.

The Director made a tour in East Africa seeing Education Officers and some very interesting educational work in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory. The information obtained will be of great assistance in devising a school scheme, which is already under consideration, for Northern Rhodesia.

The following figures of expenditures from Government funds are indicative of the increasing interest and progress in provision of education for the native population :—

	£
1924–25	348
1925–26	3,994
1926–27	6,603
1927–28	6,593
1928–29 (estimated)	9,110
1929–30 (estimated)	10,845

These figures do not include contributions from the Barotse Fund and Beit Railway Trust Fund.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEYS.

During 1929, 81 enquiries regarding land settlement in Northern Rhodesia were received, of which 40 cases came from residents in the territory, 15 from Southern Rhodesia, 14 from the Union of South Africa, 8 from the Belgian Congo, 2 from Kenya Colony, and 2 from Australia. In addition to the above, 85 enquiries were dealt with for surveyed plots at sidings and townships. 52,211 acres were alienated under permits of occupation as new holdings, the total purchase price being £10,041 11*s.* 11*d.* Twenty-six titles to

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farms were issued during the year in respect of 61,318 acres, and 52 titles for 56 township plots. Thirty-six leases were issued for 38 township plots with option to purchase, the total purchase price being £3,796, two-thirds of which has been paid on issue of the lease. Fifty-two other leases were issued for other areas of farm land. The amount received in respect of timber royalty was £2,337 2*s.* 2*d.*

During the year a number of farms were surveyed in various parts of the territory. In addition a large number of plots were surveyed at other places including the demarcation of the new township at Choma and additional plots at Ndola. Inspectional surveys were also carried out at Luanshya and Ndola with a view to layout of townships at these places. Several farms are surveyed within the British South Africa Company's areas in the vicinity of Abercorn, and at Abercorn itself a re-survey was carried out to demarcate the areas to be transferred to the Crown for administrative purposes.

District Surveyors are now established at Lusaka and Kasama, an arrangement which facilitates the settlement of survey matters in these districts.

Of the three aerial survey contracts let to the Aircraft Operating Company that of the townships of Livingstone, Mazabuka, Lusaka, and Broken Hill have been successfully completed and the mosaics and photo-prints handed over. These have proved of great value in connection with the survey of these towns and consideration of layout, etc.

The aerial photography of the Zambesi and its tributaries, the Kabompo and Lungwebungu, has been completed, and the mosaics will shortly be delivered. The mapping from oblique photos of portions of the Rhodesia Congo Border Concession is well in hand and fourteen sheets to large scale of the maps have been sent back after referencing for finishing off to the correct scale.

The International Boundary Commission is still at work on the demarcation of the Anglo-Belgian Boundary along the Zambesi-Congo Watershed.

The demarcation by the Survey Department of the Nyasaland-Northern Rhodesia Border along the eastern boundary of the North Charterland Concession was completed and plans lodged and approved.

XI.—LABOUR.

A.—Within the Territory.

Labour conditions within the territory continue to improve, and there is reason to suppose that the flow of able-bodied natives to centres outside the territory is decreasing. The larger mining companies are pursuing a progressive policy of recruiting, and are providing amenities—such as motor transport—for their employees which cannot fail to attract a number of waverers.

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The number of Europeans licensed to recruit for work within the territory has risen from 8 to 18 in the last two years. The wages paid by mines and by contractors have practically doubled within the last ten years. Raw labour can now command 18*s.* to 20*s.* a month in the Ndola District.

There is reason to suppose that conditions are improving on farms also ; wages show an upward tendency, but general conditions require to be proportionately advanced before the farmer or planter can seriously compete for the most efficient labour. Fortunately for the farming community there is still a class of labourer content to put up with longer hours and less remuneration in view of the greater freedom and lack of disciplinary regulations on farms.

Statistics show that the average number of natives employed in mining during 1928 exceeded the number employed during 1927 by 1,543. The number of natives actually employed on mines at the end of December, 1928, was 16,073, and the number employed at the end of 1927, 10,946.

In agriculture there was an average decrease of 5,037, mainly due to the slump in tobacco which resulted in a period of great financial stress in the East Luangwa Province.

B.—Without the Territory.

Recruiting of labour in the Awemba and Tanganyika Provinces for work in Tanganyika Territory has practically ceased.

The Rhodesia Native Labour Bureau continues to recruit for Southern Rhodesia, and Mr. R. W. Yule for the Congo mines. Comparative figures of natives recruited and repatriated are given below :—

	Recruited.		*Repatriated.*	
	1927.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
R.N.L.B.	4,718	4,022	5,533	4,387
R.W. Yule	6,153	5,176	3,774	5,296
Total	10,871	9,198	9,307	9,683

The contract offered by the Rhodesian Native Labour Bureau is one of twelve month's duration, and that offered by Mr. Yule one of six month's duration.

Deferred pay was distributed by these two agencies to the amount of £52,474 9*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with £45,091 16*s.* 2*d.* last year.

It is estimated that 27,650 natives left the territory independently in search of employment during 1928. The estimate for 1927 was 31,438.

There were 21,338 natives of Northern Rhodesia working in Southern Rhodesia at the end of the year. Some of these had of course been away for a number of years.

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XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

During the year under review a Session of the Legislative Council was held on the 16th April, 1928, at which eight Ordinances in all were passed. These included provisions for the holding of Commissions of Inquiry ; the taking of promissory oaths ; a consolidating law relating to the collection of native tax ; and an enactment empowering the Mashonaland Railway Company Limited to construct a branch railway from Bwana M'Kubwa to the Roan Antelope Mine.

G. A. S. NORTHCOTE,

Chief Secretary.

14*th November*, 1929.

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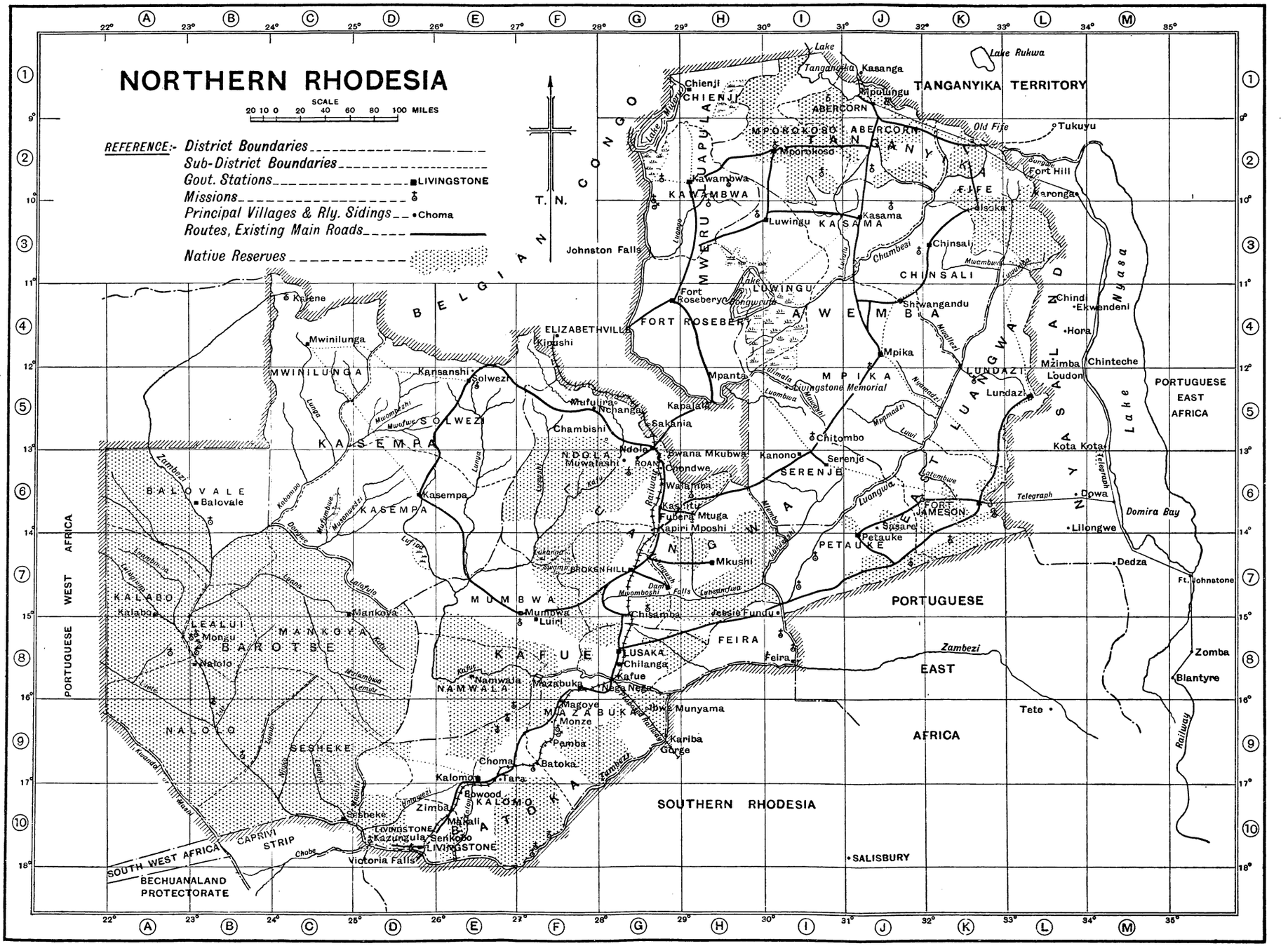

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MAP OF CYPRUS.

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CYPRUS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1928.

PREFATORY NOTE.

Geography.

The island of Cyprus situated in the eastern Mediterranean between 34° 33′ and 35° 41′ N. latitude and between 32° 20′ and 34° 35′ E. longitude, is about 140 miles in greatest length from east to west and about 40 miles in greatest breadth from north to south. A narrow range of limestone mountains, with an average height of 2,000 feet, extends along the northern coast, and an extensive group of mountains, culminating in Mount Troödos, 6,406 feet above the sea, fills the south-western part of the Island. Between these ranges lies the fertile Messaoria plain.

Cyprus is most easily reached *via* Port Said, from which it is distant at the nearest point 240 miles. The crossing from Larnaca on the south-east coast to Beirut in Syria is accomplished in a night, and the strait between the north coast and the southern shores of Asia Minor is at Kyrenia 45 miles wide.

Climate.

The climate of Cyprus is, generally speaking, temperate and healthy, though the excessive heat of the plains during the summer is trying to Europeans. The heat is, however, dry, except on the coast, and the winters are cold and invigorating. There are numerous resorts in the hills at altitudes varying from 6,000 to 2,000 feet, such as Mount Troödos or Kantara, where the summer season, lasting from June to the end of September, can be passed in eminently healthy surroundings and without discomfort or inconvenience. On Troödos during the 1928 season the maximum shade temperature was 86° F. and the minimum 39° F.

The absolute mean temperature for 1928 at Nicosia was 67.18° F. as against 66.5° F. for 1927 and the average of 66.3° F. for the last fifteen years. The mean maximum temperature during the year was 78.96° F. as against 79.2° F. for 1927, and the mean minimum temperature was 55.4° F. as against 55.9° F.

The rainfall for the last ten years has averaged 19.91 inches per annum. The mean rainfall for the year was 21.54 inches, as compared with 16.81 for 1927.

History.

Cyprus was a centre of Aegean civilisation 2,000 years before the Christian era, and Phoenician and Greek colonies were established there at a very early date. It would appear indeed to have been

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colonised in the Mycenaean age, and probably was used as a base for those assaults by the Achaeans on the power of Egypt and of the Hittites, which took place in the century before the Trojan war. In the sixth century B.C. the Island was conquered by Egypt, and later absorbed into the Persian Empire. Evagoras, a native-born king, succeeded in the fifth century B.C. in raising Cyprus to a position of independence, but on his death it again fell to the power of Persia, and in due course to Alexander the Great. At the division of Alexander's empire, Cyprus passed to Egypt, until in 58 B.C. it became a Roman province, falling, on the division of the Roman Empire, under the rule of the Byzantine emperor.

In A.D. 1184, the Governor of Cyprus, Isaac Commenus, revolted and maintained his independence until 1191, when Richard Coeur de Lion of England, on his way to the Crusades, landed, and in a sharp campaign of a few weeks conquered the Island. Richard sold it to Guy de Lusignan, the " King of Jerusalem," and the Lusignan dynasty ruled the Island until A.D. 1489, although from 1378 to 1464 the Genoese Republic exercised a suzerainty over a part of the kingdom. In 1489, Cyprus fell to the Republic of Venice, who held it until it was wrested from them by the Turks in 1571, in the Sultanate of Selim II.

In 1878, the Island passed under the administration of Great Britain, and, on the outbreak of war with Turkey in 1914, was annexed to the British Crown by Order in Council of 5th November, 1914. The annexation has been formally recognised by Turkey under the Treaty of Lausanne, which was ratified on the 6th August, 1924.

In 1925, Letters Patent formally elevating Cyprus to the status of a Colony and constituting the office of Governor of the Colony in place of that of High Commissioner were passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, dated the 10th of March.

Historical Remains.

Cyprus is very rich in archaeological and antiquarian interest, of the preclassical, classical, Lusignan, and Venetian eras.

In 1928, alterations to the building set aside at Nicosia for the reception of pieces from mediaeval ruins were completed and the " Musée Lapidaire " inaugurated. Structural repairs were carried out on the Ayia Sophia Mosque and the Bedestan at Nicosia and on the sea-wall at Famagusta.

Languages.

The language of the country is a local dialect, often very corrupt, of modern Greek. Osmanli Turkish, somewhat archaic and free from Persian and Arabic words, is spoken by the Moslems, who, however, as a general rule, are conversant with Greek. In a less

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degree, French is spoken by the more educated classes. The knowledge of English is rapidly becoming more widely diffused, and, save in the most remote villages, there is usually to be found someone who can speak and even read and write it.

Population.

The population of Cyprus, as shown in the census return taken in 1921, was 310,709, and the estimated population at the end of 1927 was about 344,000. Nationality in the Near East is somewhat difficult of definition and is inseparably linked up with religion. Cyprus is a land of many creeds, and in differentiating sociologically between the varied elements of the population it is easiest to follow these natural lines. The bulk of the inhabitants of the Island are of the Orthodox Greek-Christian faith and belong to the Autocephalous Church of Cyprus. Of the remainder, some 65,000, or approximately one-fifth of the population, are Moslems. There is also an Armenian community, which tends steadily to increase, and a distinct though not numerous Latin colony.

Currency.

Paper :—

£5, £1, and 10*s*. currency notes.

Gold :—

£1. The Cyprus £1 is equal to the pound sterling.

Silver :—

45-piastre piece (special Jubilee issue).
18-piastre piece.
9-piastre piece (= 1 shilling. There are 20 shillings to the £.)
4½-piastre piece.
3-piastre piece.

Copper :—

Piastre.
Half-piastre.
Quarter-piastre.

Weights and Measures.

Capacity.

2 pints	=	1 quart.	
2⅘ quarts	=	1 Cyprus litre.	
4 quarts	=	1 gallon.	
8 gallons	=	1 kilé.	
9 quarts	=	1 kouza	} Liquid measure.
16 kouzas	=	1 load	}

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Weight.

400 drams = 1 oke.
1 oke = $2\frac{4}{5}$ lb.
$1\frac{4}{5}$ okes = 1 Cyprus litre.
5 okes = 1 stone.
44 okes = 1 kantar.
180 okes = 1 Aleppo kantar.
800 okes = 1 ton.

Length.

12 inches = 1 foot.
2 feet = 1 pic.
3 feet = 1 yard.
33 pics = 1 chain.
2,640 pics = 1 mile.

Land Measure.

1 donum = 60 pics — 40 yards square — 1,600 square yards — 14,400 square feet — $\frac{40}{121}$ of an acre.
1,936 donums = 1 square mile.
3,025 donums = 1 acre.

I.—GENERAL.

The year 1928 saw the fiftieth anniversary of the British occupation of Cyprus. The occasion was marked by the coining of a 45-piastre (crown) piece and by the issue of a set of Jubilee stamps to remain in circulation for one year only.

In the autumn of 1928 two members of the Palestine Secretariat came over on a special mission of 15 days' duration to study the methods of office organisation employed in the Colony.

At the end of the year the building of the Cyprus Pavilion was completed at Larnaca. The Pavilion, which contains a representative selection of Cyprus products, is situated near the quay at Larnaca and is readily accessible to persons disembarking from ships at that port. It is in charge of a Superintendent whose duty it is to give information to enquirers.

II.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The totals of revenue and expenditure for the last five years are :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Grant-in-Aid.*	*Total.*	*Expenditure.*	*Share of Cyprus of Turkish Debt Charge.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1924 ...	593,318	50,000	643,318	535,870	92,800	628,670
1925 ...	668,131	50,000	718,131	619,622	92,799	712,421
1926 ...	629,266	50,000	679,266	655,227	92,800	748,027
1927 ...	655,997	50,000	705,997	615,029	92,800	707,829
1928 ...	713,753	92,800	806,553	679,980	92,800	772,780

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The increase in revenue referred to in the report for 1927 has been more than maintained and the total revenue in 1928 was £100,556 more than in the preceding year. The improvement is partly to be accounted for by the decision of His Majesty's Government to relieve Cyprus of the whole of the Turkish Debt Charge by raising the grant-in-aid from £50,000 to £92,800, and partly by an increase in local revenue of £57,756. Despite increased expenditure of £64,951, there was a balance on the year's working of £33,773.

The increase in the local revenue is attributable to three main heads: Customs Import Duties £34,129, due to increased imports; Excise Tobacco Duties £9,508, due to an increase in the rate of duty; and Stamp Duties £18,612, due to the special issue of Jubilee stamps in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the British Occupation of Cyprus and to increased Court fees.

The abolition of spirit duties during the year accounts for a decrease of £9,043 under this head. The only other significant decreases are under salt, railway receipts (due to less traffic, consequent upon increased road motor competition), and interest on Government moneys, due to lower level of the Note Security Fund.

Increases in expenditure appear under Pensions; under District Administration, due to increased expenditure on village roads; under Customs Department, due to a purchase of a motor launch and increased expenditure on salt service; under Judicial and Legal, due to the reorganization of the Courts; under Medical and Agricultural Departments, due to their continued development; and under Public Works Extraordinary, due to artesian borings, extension of Nicosia Hospital and improvement of roads and bridges. A new item of expenditure, £10,000, under Imperial Defence represents the Colony's contribution in return for the increased grant-in-aid.

The only Department that shows a material decrease in expenditure is the Railway, due to reduced expenditure on material and general expenses and to the transfer of the railway clerical staff to the Colony's general clerical staff.

The balance of assets over liabilities on the 31st December, 1928, exclusive of the Reserve Fund of £90,000 and the depreciation account on investments of the Reserve Fund and Savings Bank, amounted to £79,290 as against £45,050 on the 31st December, 1927.

Currency notes of £5, £1, and 10*s*. were again in circulation throughout the year. The maximum amount of the currency note issues is still limited to £700,000 and the maximum value of notes actually in circulation at any one time during 1928 was £489,025 on the 7th and 13th September.

During the year a special Jubilee 45-cp. silver piece was minted and put into circulation to the nominal value of £10,000. In addition, a limited number of these coins, hand-finished so that they might serve as souvenirs, was placed on sale.

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The amount of the Public Debt due in its entirety to the Imperial Treasury was originally £314,000, £60,000 having been incurred on irrigation works and £254,000 in connection with Famagusta Harbour and the railway. The Irrigation loan is repaid by yearly instalments of £2,400, which is applied in paying 3 per cent. interest on the amount of the loan outstanding, the remainder going towards repayment of capital. At the end of the year the amount outstanding was approximately £37,057. The other loan is extinguished by equal repayments of capital on the annuity system at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. for 50 years. The amount outstanding at 31st December, 1928, was £137,050.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

The year under review proved on the whole fairly good for the farmer. Both crops and the prices realised for them were in the main satisfactory. The rains commenced late in the winter of 1927–1928 and the sowing of cereals was consequently delayed ; but production was not materially affected thereby owing to the continuance of the rains late into the spring. Smaller production in the case of certain crops was compensated for by the higher prices realised on agricultural products generally.

The cereal harvest was generally speaking satisfactory, though the production of oats was considerably below the average. Certain damage to the crops was caused by the Sirividhi pest (*Nochelodes* (*Syringopais*) *temperatella*, *Led.*). The production of carobs was good and well above the average of recent years. Exports on the other hand were lower than in 1927, stocks being retained with the object of forcing prices up to a higher level.

The olive crop was poor, largely owing to the prevalence of hot, dry winds at the time the trees were in blossom. Also the previous year had seen a record crop, and it is rare that there are two good years in succession. On the average there is a good crop once in every four or five years. Damage was as usual caused by the olive fly (*Dacus Oleae*).

The grape harvest was good, and the production of grapes, raisins, and wines higher than it has been for many years. The export of fresh grapes showed a further expansion, and shipments were made to the Empire Marketing Board in order to test the carrying qualities of Cyprus grapes for long distance shipment. It was shown that the export of grapes from Cyprus to the United Kingdom could only be made to pay if good table varieties were grown and if direct shipment could be arranged. Steps have been taken to secure from South Africa a stock of good table varieties suitable for export.

The fruit crops were again satisfactory, though the production of oranges was less than in the previous year owing to the prevalence of cold winds when the trees were in blossom. Considerable interest

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is now being displayed in the cultivation of oranges and of citrus fruits generally and the area devoted thereto continues to increase.

The cultivation of cotton was hampered by lack of rain; but although the area under cultivation was less than in 1927 the crop was larger, the damage caused by the boll weevil having been considerably less than previously.

The potato crop was good. Both area under cultivation and production were greater than in the preceding year, and show signs of increasing. Production has increased from 164,005 cwt. in 1924 to 321,584 cwt. in 1928.

Agricultural Pests.

Campaigns were conducted against locusts, rats, sparrows, bats, and hornets, as well as against the almond maggot (*Eurytoma Amygdali, End.*) and against *Dacus Oleae.* Fumigations and sprayings of citrus trees against scale and fly and the fumigation of citrus fruit destined for exportation were carried out by the Agricultural Department.

Agricultural Experiments and Education.

Experiments in the cultivation of flax were continued, but owing to lack of rain the crop all over the island was poor. Fibre produced at the Zodia scutching mill sold readily in London and fetched a price of approximately £95 per ton. The question of the disposal of the Mesaoria flax straw, which hitherto has been left in the fields, was examined, and twenty tons were shipped to a German firm for experimental purposes. Towards the end of the year Mr. M. J. Megaw, Flax Expert to the Ministry of Agriculture, Northern Ireland, visited the Colony on behalf of the Empire Marketing Board for the purpose of studying the possibilities of developing the local flax industry.

The hemp industry in Paphos received considerable attention from the Agricultural Department. Hitherto most of the hemp produced has been converted locally into cordage and ropes. In 1928, a trial consignment was shipped to London, where it was well received. It was, however, made clear that a more systematic process of grading must be adopted before an export trade could be developed.

Since 1921 the cultivation of tobacco has increased steadily and production has risen from 4,887 okes to 167,963 okes in 1928. Two tobacco experts and five itinerant instructors were employed by the Agricultural Department in 1928 and new seed was imported. The quality of the tobacco grown continues to improve.

The departmental leather-curing factory, installed in 1924 with the object of encouraging local tanners to produce a better class of leather, continued its operations. Attention was devoted to the production of skins for glove making, and also to glove making, as well as to the production of lamb skins and kid furs for clothing.

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During the year under review 27 students attended the Agricultural College at Nicosia. Sixty applications for enrolment were received, but of these all but 12 had to be rejected. The curriculum was extended by the giving of classes in English and French, and a botany club was formed.

A theoretical course in agriculture is given by the schoolmasters to the boys of the higher classes in the rural schools. The masters, however, often lack the necessary qualifications. As a preliminary step towards remedying this situation a course was given by the agricultural staff to the students of the Nicosia Training School for candidate schoolmasters.

Lectures and demonstrations, which were well attended, were given by the Entomologist, the Viticulturist and other members of the staff; and in order to supplement the quarterly *Agricultural Journal*, a monthly agricultural supplement was published in the *Cyprus Gazette*.

At the end of the year under review the Department was maintaining 310 demonstrational plots, where practical instruction was given to the villagers in planting, cultivation, pruning, manuring, etc., and eleven nursery gardens for the supply of nursery stock and seed to the villagers. In 1927 there were 236 demonstrational plots and 8 nursery gardens.

Twenty new school gardens were established in 1928, bringing the total number up to 176. Considerable importance is attached to these gardens as a means of inspiring the coming generation with an intelligent appreciation of the principles of agriculture.

Stock Breeding.

At Athalassa, three miles from Nicosia, the Government possesses a large stock farm, which is under the supervision of a resident manager. At this farm stock is raised for sale throughout the country, and in addition thoroughbred stallions, donkeys, bulls, and boars stand for service at nominal fees.

During the year, the following services were effected by the stud animals :—

At Athalassa :—

Mares, 130 ; donkeys, 49 ; cows, 160 ; sows, 32 ;

and in the districts :—

Mares, 442 ; donkeys, 519 ; cows, 381 ; sows, 665.

In addition to Athalassa, stud-stables are maintained at Paphos, Larnaca, Ayios Theodoros, Vatili, Lefconico, Yialousa, Famagusta, and Polis.

The comparative returns of live stock for the last five years showed a general increase in 1928. Export on the other hand has declined. The large exports made from 1923–1926 were indeed chiefly due to the temporary demand in Greece occasioned by the settlement of refugees. It is, however, believed that the present export trade might be considerably increased, and measures are being

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taken to encourage the breeding of stock generally, and particularly of oxen, mules, and donkeys. The two latter are especially prized in the Near East on account of their powers of endurance and their immunity from the prevalent diseases.

At the close of the year there were 92 premises registered under the "Milk and Dairies Sale of Food (Milk) Regulations 1926." It would appear that there is considerable scope for dairy farming in Cyprus, as the imports of dairy produce, which are on the increase, exceeded £22,000 in value in 1928. At present, however, dairy farming as it is understood in England and the Dominions is unknown in the Colony, and the Cypriot looks chiefly to the sheep and goat for his milk and cheese. On the average about £20,000 worth of cheese is exported annually.

The export trade in poultry received a set-back during the year under review owing to the outbreak of fowl cholera in October, but the exports of eggs were the highest on record since 1924. Of the breeds of poultry introduced into Cyprus to improve the local birds the Rhode Island Reds imported in 1925 appear to be the most successful. Croad Langshans take second place, and fair results have been obtained from the Light Sussex imported with the Rhode Island Reds in 1925.

Veterinary Services.

The year under review was marked by a considerable expansion of the activities of the Veterinary Service made possible by the adoption of a scheme for the reorganisation of the service extending over five years. The scheme provides for the employment and training under the Government Veterinary Surgeon of five assistant stock inspectors and for the granting of increased funds for veterinary work in general and for the control of anthrax in particular.

With the increased staff available in 1928 more frequent inspections of stock were possible and more opportunities afforded for educating owners by means of lectures, demonstrations, and explanations to individuals. The value of the work done is reflected in the fact that reports of the existence of disease in villages tend increasingly to be received from the owners of the affected stock instead of from the Police, as used to be the case.

The poor condition of the stock produced in the latter months of 1927 by the late arrival of the rains continued into the spring of 1928 and a high percentage of goats and sheep aborted. In addition many lambs and kids were slaughtered at an immature age. The total number of sheep and goats on the 1st March, 1928, was nevertheless superior to the totals recorded on the same date for the three preceding years. During the latter part of the year climatic conditions were satisfactory and all classes of stock were in better condition than is usual at that season.

Sixty-four outbreaks of anthrax came under notice with reported mortality of 963 animals. These figures, however, do not accurately

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represent the incidence of the disease, as sporadic cases occur frequently and in all parts of the island without being reported. Indeed, the two main difficulties with which the veterinary staff has to contend in its endeavour to eradicate anthrax are the failure of owners to report the disease and their negligence in complying with the regulations as to the isolation of affected animals and the proper disposal of carcases. In 1928, 152,338 animals were immunised as compared with 55,913 in 1927. The Pasteur single vaccine was used with satisfactory results. The number of animals vaccinated in the various classes was as follows :—equines, 1,842 ; bovines, 2,991 ; sheep, 85,983 ; goats, 61,469 ; pigs, 53.

Black quarter was diagnosed in eighteen areas with a reported loss of 54 cattle, as compared with 26 deaths in eleven areas in the preceding year. For the immunisation of cattle in the affected areas black quarter filtrate was used instead of the pill-form vaccine used hitherto. Some 752 cattle were inoculated as compared with 262 in 1927.

Tuberculosis, which had been present in dairy cattle of imported breeds, has now been eradicated. This disease has not been seen in native cattle.

Forestry.

At one time Cyprus was famous for its forests. During the Turkish Administration, when their value was not appreciated and the science of silviculture not understood, they gradually declined, and a visitor to the island in the seventies was horrified by the spectacle of desolation which they presented. Since the British occupation in 1878 there has, however, been a considerable improvement and artificial reafforestation has been carried out as far as funds have permitted. In the late war the forests of Cyprus were of great service to the Allied armies in Egypt and Palestine, which they supplied with a large proportion of their needs in the way of timber and fuel.

The total area of the delimited State forests, comprising practically all the forests in the island, is now estimated at 405,511 acres, and the total length of the forest boundaries is over 1,854 miles. During the year, great progress was made with the enumeration and topographical survey of the forests, the latter of which when completed will put an end to disputes concerning boundaries. The Stock map survey has been continued. The principal species of trees grown are the Corsican and Aleppo pine, juniper, plane, dwarf oak, alder, and cedar, and, in the plantations, acacia, eucalyptus, and pine. The forests supply the local needs for fuel and in part for timber, but endeavours to open up markets for Cyprus timber abroad have hitherto been unsuccessful on account, it would appear, partly of its knotty quality as compared with that grown in Scandinavia and America, and of the relatively high cost of production. In the island the cost and difficulty of transport cramp the local market. It must, however, be borne in mind that though the exploitation of the forests on a commercial scale would be desirable the indirect benefit derived

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from them in a country which, like Cyprus, lacks a plentiful water supply, is enormous. They both increase the rainfall and help to preserve the humidity of the soil.

During the year a good deal of damage was caused by fire, owing to the season being excessively dry and the fire hazard consequently very great, especially in the high forests. 131 fires occurred, 3 of which assumed serious proportions, and it is estimated that the fires burnt over an area of 2,801 acres destroying or damaging 85,104 trees of different kinds. No fires were caused by lightning. Some snow break occurred on Troödos, but it was most noticeable in Machera forest, where many large branches were broken. The snow partially melted, so that the damage was greater, as wind was blowing at the time.

Reduced funds were available for reafforestation, but the sowing by tractor continued, and an area of 272 acres of bare land was sown. The reafforesting of burnt areas was also continued, and 564 acres was sown by hand with 7,286 lb. of various species of seeds.

Repair planting on roadsides was carried out over a distance of nearly 29 miles; 608 new tree guards were made to protect the young trees from animals and 18,703 old ones were repaired. The draining and reafforestation of the Freshwater Lake Famagusta was continued with prison as well as paid labourers. Irrigation was improved by the installation of engine and pumps at Salamis Plantation and Laxia tou Pattishi in the Xylotymbo forest. In addition 13 new wells were dug and two air motors erected. The forest telephone system was extended from Troödos to Selladhi, Petrou, and Kambos in the Paphos forest, a distance of 20 miles, and 188 miles of new fire traces were cleared. 225,525 forest trees were distributed to private individuals for planting in their properties.

Two more of the Cypriots sent to England for forestry training returned after completion of the course in the Forest Apprentices School, Forest of Dean, and have shown that they have benefited considerably by their training.

The departmental revenue amounted to £12,036 14*s.* 5*d.*, against £11,227 17*s.* 5*d.* in the year 1927. Very little exploitation work was carried out in the forests and saw mills owing to the further limited funds available for this purpose.

One of the most difficult problems with which the Forest Department had to deal is the presence of goats, of which there is a very large number in the island (226,761). These animals do an incalculable amount of damage both directly by eating the younger trees and indirectly by loosening the earth on the steep mountain sides where they roam. In this way the annual increment of growth is enormously diminished. Of late years the problem has become very serious because as more arable land is brought under better cultivation and closed to nomadic grazing, the goats tend to move towards the forests. Efforts have been made to minimise the damage done by issuing permits for grazing of limited numbers of goats in certain

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defined areas ; and this method has undoubtedly had some success in reducing the number of animals grazing in the forests. Efforts are also being made to induce the villagers to exchange goats for forest land or trees.

Nevertheless it is impossible without a large staff of guards entirely to prevent illicit grazing, and the system of issuing permits itself can only limit without abolishing the mischief. It is, however, obviously impracticable at once to eliminate goats from Cyprus, and this system must be maintained, while at the same time efforts are made to induce the goatherds to abandon the keeping of goats for an agricultural life. The tethering of goats and other animals is increasing, so that it appears that the peasants are beginning to be alive to the fact that these destructive animals must not be allowed to destroy the forests of the country. The Committee appointed in 1926 to enquire into the present forest policy of the Government submitted its report in 1928. Before finally adopting a policy for the future it was decided to obtain the views of a forestry expert before whom the Committee's report would be laid.

Mining.

During the last few years mining activities have continued steadily to expand. Thirty-one new prospecting permits were issued in 1928, and at the end of the year 49 permits were in force as compared with 33 at the end of the preceding year. In the larger mines already being exploited satisfactory development is to be noted.

The Cyprus Mines Corporation at Skouriotissa and Mavrovouni extracted approximately 244,000 tons of cupriferous iron pyrites ore and shipped approximately 240,000 tons for exportation, an increase of 43,000 tons and 32,000 tons respectively on the figures for 1927. Development and construction work was carried out in both mining areas at a total cost of some £33,000. Underground conditions showed a continued improvement, largely due to the completion of the ventilation scheme started in 1927. In addition first-aid classes have been organised and clinics established at Mavrovouni, Xero, and Skouriotissa village.

The Cyprus Asbestos Company spent a further sum of £129,200 on constructional work and largely increased its output. The amount of asbestos rock mined reached close on 2,073,000 tons, an increase of over half a million tons on the figures for 1927. The amount of finished asbestos produced (16,200 tons) was 5,000 tons in excess of the production for 1927. Exports of asbestos amounted to 11,500 tons. New shipping arrangements effected by the company led to the quantity exported being less than had been anticipated.

The Government Inspector of Mines visited and advised upon all prospecting claims where work was being done, and the Government takes every precaution to ensure that such claims are properly and seriously exploited.

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Sericulture.

Cyprus is the second most important silk-producing country in the British Empire, and the rearing of silkworms has for many years been an important and growing local industry. This industry has received an additional impetus since the establishment in 1925 of the Cyprus Silk Filature at Yeroskipos under the auspices of the Imperial Institute. The principal centres are Paphos, Kyrenia, and the Carpass division of the Famagusta district. Special attention is paid by the Government to the industry, which is under the close supervision of the Agricultural Department, and egg-raising for reproduction purposes is permitted only by special licence to a limited number of persons and is subject to periodical inspection.

The quantity of cocoons produced in 1928 amounted to 199,875 okes, and the quantity of eggs used for hatching to 9,718 ozs. The production therefore works out at slightly under 20 okes of cocoons per ounce of seed or about half the average production in Italy. The results of the sericultural work undertaken at the Girls' Schools in 1928 indicate that with improved methods of rearing greatly increased production could be attained. Six ounces of seed were distributed to 55 Girls' Schools for demonstrational rearings under the supervision of Sericultural Inspectors, and from 40 to 60 okes of cocoons were produced per ounce. The production of the island averaged 50 per cent. below the minimum production of the Girls' Schools.

The operations of the Silk Filature have had the result of reducing the exports of cocoons from 1,209 cwt. in 1924 to 583 cwt. in 1928, and of increasing the exports of raw silk from 251 okes in 1925 to 15,314 okes in 1928. During the year under review the Filature's operations were attended by a slight loss owing to adverse market conditions.

Sponge Fishing.

The sponge fisheries in the territorial waters of Cyprus are supervised by the Comptroller of Customs and Excise, who is also the Government Inspector of Fisheries.

The sponges obtained locally are of good quality but the Cypriot does not take kindly to the industry, and the fishing is mostly done by fishers from the Greek islands, more particularly Symi and Calymnos.

Eleven licences were issued during 1928, of which nine were for machine boats and two for harpoon boats, as compared with a total of eighteen licences issued in 1927.

The system by which a tithe of the catch was taken by the Government as duty in kind was abolished as from the 1st January, 1925, and the licence duty increased. Owing to this change and to relaxed control, the exact number of sponges taken cannot be accurately ascertained, but it has been established that approximately 2,400 okes, of a value of £4,800, were gathered and taken away from the

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island. The decrease of some 3,500 okes is to be attributed to overfishing in 1927.

Other Industries.

The manufacture of wine and spirits and of raisins is a well-established industry in the Limassol and Paphos districts and in certain parts of the Nicosia district. In 1928, although the export of fresh grapes showed an increase of 15,000 cwt. and that of raisins an increase of 9,000 cwt. over the 1927 figures, the production of wine was higher by 50,000 gallons than in 1927. The principal types produced are the ordinary red and white table wines made from fresh grapes, and commandaria, a wine resembling madeira, made from half-dried grapes.

In 1928, a law was passed prohibiting the export to the United Kingdom and British Colonies of any wines not coming up to the standard required by those markets. The law aims at the prevention of the export of wines liable by their inferior quality eventually to have a prejudicial effect upon the export trade. During the year a British company, known as the British Cyprus Company, was formed, which is interested in the production and export of wine suitable for the United Kingdom market.

The leather industry is represented by some 20 small local tanneries and by the "Cyprus Tannery" which started operations at Larnaca in April, 1928. As a result of the operations of the latter the imports of sole leather fell from 5,105 cwt. in 1927 to 3,868 cwt. in 1928, while the imports of hides and skins used for sole leather more than doubled.

The manufacture of cigarettes is a thriving local industry; there are six tobacco factories in the Colony and Cyprus cigarettes are sent all over the world and enjoy an excellent reputation. The tobacco employed has up to the present been imported chiefly from Greece.

Sumach is exported in considerable quantities, which have varied from 10,759 cwt. in 1924 to 8,980 cwt. in 1928. No attempt is made to cultivate the shrub; but in view of its importance as a tanning material the Agricultural Department has under consideration measures for the production of a better leaf and for the increase of output.

Cotton manufactures of local design form an important industry in a minor degree; and the making of lace at Lefkara, of a design closely related to Venetian point lace, is a prosperous business. The itinerant lace sellers have penetrated with their wares to all corners of Europe and as far as America.

Other exports from the Colony include minerals, gypsum and terra umbra, animals, hides and skins, cheese, silk cocoons, wool, salt, vegetables, and fruit.

The following statement shows the comparative amount—in quantities as well as values—of the annual exports of the principal domestic commodities during the last five years:—

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Articles.		Quantities.					Value.				
		1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
CLASS I.—FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO :—							£	£	£	£	£
Animals, living :—											
Goats	No.	2,460	323	122	14	9	2,150	318	152	21	11
Oxen	,,	9,050	2,564	2,701	1,347	1,068	79,416	24,757	37,062	19,666	12,131
Poultry	,,	10,731	10,973	13,702	12,073	7,119	1,293	1,387	1,587	1,397	783
Sheep	,,	15,617	6,915	1,557	1,015	619	13,560	9,133	2,373	2,136	1,159
Swine	,,	3,373	610	202	273	320	14,473	2,598	557	840	1,449
Beans and Peas	cwt.	5,726	934	6,893	13,558	4,076	4,855	1,262	4,671	9,705	3,943
Carobs	tons	60,492	45,490	37,682	72,716	42,071	248,538	225,230	153,905	304,379	236,506
Cheese	cwt.	3,600	4,638	6,062	5,349	3,529	18,315	19,606	21,888	22,717	15,696
Corn, Grain :—											
Barley	kiles (bshls.)	147,772	124,515	268,728	389,369	27,712	24,031	22,555	33,735	57,239	4,518
Oats	,,	10,553	6,948	21,779	36,036	223	1,430	1,093	2,527	4,223	44
Vetches	,,	694	124	647	2,744	386	231	54	222	714	111
Wheat	,,	12,355	2,287	534	2,013	8,892	4,813	946	211	725	3,932
Bran	cwt.	219	39	3	2	—	81	21	1	1	—
Wheat Meal or Flour ...	,,	678	62	1	12	3	575	59	1	8	2
Other Corn, etc. ...	,,	684	102	70	992	522	458	68	46	428	320
Fruit :—											
Grapes	,,	10,781	17,101	28,109	26,770	42,118	3,216	6,056	9,563	9,043	14,225
Lemons and Oranges ...	No.	12,478,415	19,034,690	15,667,219	22,563,858	20,897,046	25,920	34,264	31,342	46,116	43,795
Pomegranates	cwt.	78,045	75,502	98,329	99,937	97,539	21,914	22,988	25,631	28,830	25,759
Raisins	,,	91,733	67,908	66,069	87,949	97,377	55,294	43,972	58,198	86,508	79,351
Other	,,	6,594	13,526	5,006	9,827	8,349	11,384	30,036	3,161	14,216	13,917
Juices, lemon, orange and mandarine	galls.	—	—	—	—	6,800	—	—	—	—	1,010
Salt...	tons	22	1	—	—	—	26	9	3	—	—
Spirit	galls.	27,057	19,891	15,442	13,349	12,063	4,397	3,973	3,052	2,747	2,439

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Articles.	*Quantities.*					*Value.*				
	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
CLASS I.—FOOD, DRINK, AND TOBACCO—*cont.*						£	£	£	£	£
Tobacco :—										
Unmanufactured ... cwt.	1,792	209	53	1,708	2,212	4,051	577	272	5,132	10,310
Cigarettes ... ... okes	5,067	8,973	4,986	4,028	3,056	5,859	9,713	4,946	3,167	2,826
Vegetables :—										
Onions ... ... cwt.	36,024	25,348	43,630	36,777	7,721	6,834	5,272	8,044	7,219	1,938
Potatoes ... ... ,,	44,222	100,399	173,993	234,166	227,632	22,311	41,723	64,389	95,200	91,664
Vinegar ... ... galls.	171,972	179,697	199,195	201,558	206,157	4,632	4,782	5,058	4,784	5,198
Wines :—										
Commandaria ... ... ,,	11,001	6,662	5,098	4,401	6,198	1,358	817	590	505	808
Other ... ... ,,	1,732,476	1,152,039	949,615	1,446,447	1,259,793	70,689	55,020	38,588	55,471	52,237
Other Articles ... ... value	—	—	—	—	—	5,265	3,707	9,094	4,151	5,102
Total, Class I.	—	—	—	—	—	657,369	571,996	520,869	787,288	631,184
CLASS II.—RAW MATERIALS AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED :—										
Aniseed ... ... cwt.	1,322	1,192	1,613	760	39	3,121	2,215	2,548	1,362	81
Asbestos ... ... tons	3,854	3,290	6,331	10,904	11,579	70,035	54,639	121,857	207,562	231,692
Chrome Iron Ore ... ... ,,	2,811	1,989	516	700	—	9,595	6,240	1,142	1,500	2
Cotton, raw ... ... cwt.	7,786	12,466	8,601	15,602	9,091	34,004	46,946	31,592	57,019	44,232
Cotton Seed ... ... ,,	1,444	3,946	1,845	18,122	8,290	579	1,471	691	5,589	3,164
Flax ... ... ,,	2,397	1,405	1,805	2,203	2,222	4,502	1,718	3,307	2,441	1,705
Hides and Skins ... ... ,,	3,870	1,946	2,564	2,646	2,572	30,915	22,387	24,685	25,749	25,641
Linseed ... ... ,,	4,729	5,921	11,512	11,681	7,709	3,655	4,709	8,166	8,408	5,932
Magnesite ... ... tons	220	—	—	—	—	330	—	—	—	—
Ochre ... ... ,,	53	2	—	—	49	208	8	—	—	161
Ore, Pyrites ... ... ,,	128,188	173,255	150,363	208,122	240,060	166,202	209,664	156,240	196,819	248,530
Origanum oil ... ... cwt.	58	46	—	25	39	2,318	1,637	—	603	950
Silk Cocoons ... ... ,,	1,209	954	284	178	583	34,204	23,267	6,204	3,910	13,315

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CLASS II.—RAW MATERIALS AND ARTICLES MAINLY UNMANUFACTURED:—*cont.*						£	£	£	£	£
Spices and Seeds :—										
Cuminseed	„	4,249	14,257	13,217	10,313	4,740	14,034	26,281	17,422	18,831	11,328
Sponges	„	110	60	29	149	44	6,222	3,546	2,303	11,924	3,395
Straw	„	106,717	117,448	68,748	57,683	56,932	6,986	7,651	3,703	2,815	3,480
Sumac	„	10,759	12,062	20,845	13,831	8,980	4,152	5,048	12,190	8,511	5,152
Terra Umbra	tons	4,831	5,969	5,361	5,566	5,792	9,570	13,222	11,796	12,448	11,986
Terre Verte	„	3	1	4	16	6	27	13	35	128	45
Wool	cwt.	5,980	5,909	4,902	5,134	5,252	24,063	26,276	20,872	23,617	24,571
Other Articles	value	—	—	—	—	—	4,304	5,431	24,268	35,623	56,409
Total, Class II		—	—	—	—	—	429,026	462,369	449,021	624,859	691,771
CLASS III.—ARTICLES WHOLLY OR MAINLY MANUFACTURED :—										
Cordage and Twine ...	cwt.	123	120	34	58	2	392	382	133	193	6
Cotton Manufactures ...	value	—	—	—	—	—	20,115	25,939	375	246	188
Gypsum	tons	14,296	24,123	19,138	13,789	11,048	16,213	29,569	23,943	16,642	13,012
Leather :—											
Boots and Shoes ...	pairs	715	205	118	253	145	326	186	114	194	158
Other	value	—	—	—	—	—	112	64	18	—	313
Silk Manufactures ...	„	—	—	—	—	—	2,455	1,574	283	306	193
Other Articles	„	—	—	—	—	—	4,658	10,375	23,920	25,597	24,209
Total, Class III		—	—	—	—	—	44,271	68,089	48,786	43,178	38,079
CLASS IV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND UNCLASSIFIED ARTICLES:—											
Animals, living :—											
Camels	No.	240	156	55	8	95	2,530	1,580	469	52	888
Donkeys	„	1,706	2,161	985	452	295	10,306	16,264	6,269	3,034	1,664
Horses	„	129	53	47	23	26	2,514	1,350	862	838	347
Mules	„	3,217	1,415	973	1,012	951	75,637	35,604	23,645	24,097	21,263
Other	„	9	—	—	—	—	15	28	15	20	14
Total, Class IV ...	„	—	—	—	—	—	91,002	54,826	31,260	28,041	24,176
TOTAL EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC PRODUCE	value	—	—	—	—	—	1,231,703	1,156,800	1,052,786	1,483,366	1,385,210

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Imports.

The total value of imports of merchandise during 1928 was £1,840,442, as against £1,585,940 for the year 1927, an increase of £254,502, or 16 per cent.

The following table shows the imports for each of the last 3 years under the main heads of classification :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*
	£	£	£
Food, drink, and tobacco	450,603	464,428	537,062
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	185,050	198,000	232,257
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured...	933,358	922,826	1,068,902
Miscellaneous and unclassified	1,267	686	2,221
Totals	£1,570,278	£1,585,940	£1,840,442

The following table shows whence imports were received :—

	Value.	*Percentage.*
	£	
United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire	810,806	44·06
Austria	18,980	1·03
Belgium	42,067	2·26
Czecho-Slovakia	62,018	3·37
Egypt	76,950	4·18
France	128,329	6·97
Germany	113,119	6·15
Greece...	119,263	6·48
Holland	24,346	1·33
Italy	106,625	5·79
Roumania	58,063	3·16
Turkey	25,523	1·39
United States of America	66,155	3·60
Other Countries	188,198	10·23
Total	£1,840,442	100·00

Exports.

The total value of exports of merchandise was £1,435,767, as against £1,542,870 in 1927, a decrease of £107,103 or 6.9 per cent.

The following table shows the exports during the last three years under the main heads of classification :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*
	£	£	£
Food, drink, and tobacco	523,211	791,682	632,756
Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	452,931	626,021	693,168
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured...	95,511	97,126	84,578
Miscellaneous and unclassified	31,918	28,041	25,265
Totals	£1,103,571	£1,542,870	£1,435,767

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The following table shows the direction of exports during the year 1928 :—

	Value. £	*Percentage.*
United Kingdom	283,315	19.73
Other parts of the British Empire.	34,850	2.43
Egypt	226,351	15.77
France	159,413	11.10
Germany	93,626	6.52
Greece	137,408	9.57
Italy	207,002	14.42
Spain	34,009	2.37
Turkey	11,840	0.83
United States of America ...	28,930	2.01
Other countries	219,017	15.25
Total ...	£1,435,761	100.00

The adverse balance of trade, which in 1927 was reduced to £43,000, rose again in 1928 to £404,600. The economic position of the Colony, however, cannot be said to be less favourable than at the end of the previous year. The continued increase of imports indicates increased purchasing power, while exports, which in 1927 reached a record figure, declined by only 6.9 per cent. ; and the decrease is to be accounted for by the partial failure of certain crops and the holding up of stocks. On the other hand, the growing tourist traffic and the increased mineral output, involving increased expenditure on labour on the part of companies whose capital is outside the island, tend to weight the economic balance in the Colony's favour.

The principal decreases in exports were in respect of carobs, barley, and cotton. The decreases were in each case due to shortage of crops and the holding up of stocks. There was also a decrease of some £8,000 on sponges due to over-fishing in 1927.

Increased exports are to be noted in respect of pyrites, asbestos, raw and wound silk, silk cocoons, grapes, and tobacco. There was also an increased exportation of wheat, despite the shortage of the local crop. This is attributed to the growing popularity of imported flour, which has the reputation of being better and cheaper.

The main increase in imports was in respect of machinery for use by the mining and industrial companies now operating, and in connection with irrigation. There were also considerable increases in respect of flour, motor-cars, timber for building, and wooden manufactures, chiefly wooden casks for the exportation of wine. The value of the motor-cars imported was £64,095 (£40,449 in excess of 1927), and affords a striking indication of the prosperity of the island and of the spread of quick and convenient means of transport.

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Decreases in imports were few. The most important were in respect of cotton yarn and thread and chemical manures, due to overstocking in the previous year, and sole leather, due to increased local manufacture. There was also a decrease of some £8,000 in the value of sugar imported owing to the fall of prices.

The value of exports to the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire amounted to £283,315 as against £278,367 in 1927, and the value of imports from the same source rose from £708,083 to £810,806. The percentage of imports from the United Kingdom and other parts of the British Empire to the total imports for the year is slightly lower by .59 per cent.

The value of specie imported during 1928 was £9,806 as against £3,123 in 1927, an increase of £6,773. The value of specie exported was £209 as against £18,524, a decrease of £18,315.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

Five hundred and twelve steamships and 803 sailing vessels engaged in foreign trade called at Cyprus ports, chiefly at Famagusta, Larnaca, and Limassol, during the year, a decrease of 6 and 80, respectively, as compared with the figures for 1927. An increase in steamships and a decrease in sailing vessels are observable in the ships engaged in the coastal trade between the ports and anchorages of the island. The increase in tonnage of the steamers engaged in foreign trade that entered Cyprus ports amounted to more than 43,300 tons.

The question of harbour improvement was mooted in 1925 and in 1926 the situation was again reported on by the representative of a British firm of consulting engineers. It has not, however, been possible, owing to financial considerations, to give effect to the recommendations made.

The existing harbourage at Limassol and Larnaca consists of jetties for small craft, and open roadsteads ; and any improvements of these ports would probably be restricted to re-arrangement and extension of the jetties, combined with dredging. At Famagusta, however, the presence of natural advantages unrivalled in the eastern Mediterranean would permit of the expansion of the present harbour works to an almost unlimited extent ; and it is proposed at present to concentrate, with whatever funds may prove to be available, on the reconstruction and development of this port. The existing harbour was admirably suited to the conditions obtaining twenty, and even ten, years ago when ships seeking admission rarely exceeded 2,000 tons, but the ships of 4,000 and 5,000 tons which call at present expose themselves to risk when entering the harbour in foul weather and are manoeuvred with difficulty in the limited space within the breakwater.

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Consideration has also been accorded to an allied proposal, which is supported in many quarters, for the establishment at Famagusta of bonded warehouses with the object of capturing the traffic in transhipment cargo destined for various ports on the Syrian, Anatolian, and neighbouring coasts. Cyprus is undoubtedly well situated for the purpose of furnishing an entrepôt for trade of this nature ; and the fact that goods so landed in the island could remain under British control and jurisdiction until reconsigned against cash payments to their destinations presents an unique and solid advantage of which traders in the Levant are not likely to lose sight.

Foreign Mails.

There is a regular subsidised mail service between Cyprus, Egypt, Syria, and Cilicia. Under their five years' contract with the Government, as from the 1st of January, 1926, the Khedivial Steamship Company undertook to maintain direct weekly sailings between Cyprus and Egypt on the above itinerary.

The time taken in transit by mails from the United Kingdom averages from a week to 10 days. During the year, the Post Office received 8,370 inward mail-bags and despatched 3,882 outward mail-bags, an increase of 2,459 and 1,329 bags, respectively, compared with the figures for the previous year.

Mails with Syria, Turkey, and Greece were exchanged by vessels of the Lloyd Triestino, Servizi Maritimi, Messageries Maritimes, and Greek steamship companies at weekly, fortnightly, and irregular intervals ; 422 mails were despatched and 680 received, an increase of 66 and 156, respectively, as compared with 1927.

In addition to the Khedivial Steamship Company, which, as above mentioned, maintained a service of mail steamers, under contract with the Government, between Cyprus and Egypt, the Lloyd Triestino Company maintained a service of passenger steamers which visited Larnaca and Limassol about four times a month on an itinerary including Egypt, the Syrian Coast, Cyprus, Constantinople the Piraeus, Venice, and Trieste. Steamers of the Societa Italiana di Servizi Maritimi visited Cyprus at regular intervals on an itinerary similar to that followed by the Lloyd Triestino vessels, except that their home port is Genoa. Cargo steamers of the Moss Line called at regular intervals, while steamers of the Prince Line were occasional visitors, plying with cargo from England, Egypt, and Syria to Cyprus. Vessels of the Messageries Maritimes also called at Cyprus at intervals of a fortnight, and there were direct sailings at frequent but irregular intervals by Greek steamers to the Piraeus.

Communication with abroad, either by aeroplane or wireless telegraphy, has not yet been established.

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Internal Posts.

Motor mail services are run daily between the various towns of the island, and there are branch post sections to the villages. Three new mail sections serving 16 villages were established, and 15 villages were included in the various existing mail routes, while endeavour continues to be made to extend facilities so far as is practicable even in the most remote districts. The estimated number of miles travelled in the conveyance of mails during the year is 448,000, an increase of 32,000 miles as compared with the previous year.

Six district post offices, seven sub-offices, three branch offices working during the summer months only, and 494 postal agencies, an increase of 33 on the preceding year, were in operation during the year. Postal-order business was transacted at 37 offices.

The series of postage and revenue stamps introduced in 1924 to replace the separate issues previously used for postal and revenue purposes now consists of 17 denominations ranging from ¼ piastre to £1, a new denomination of 2½ piastres having been introduced in consequence of the revision of postage rates under the Stockholm Convention, and in accordance with the Convention certain changes were made in the colour scheme of the series.

Stamps and stamped stationery sold during the year amounted to £91,019, but of this sum £12,961 represents Customs duty brought to account by means of stamps. Sales to philatelists realised £12,778, an increase of £12,014 on the figure for 1927.

The total number of articles dealt with by the local post office was 4,204,052, an increase of 54,673 as compared with 1927, 3,231,884 articles were posted in the island, an increase of 110,410, and 971,968 articles were received from abroad, a decrease of 55,937. Correspondence for local delivery shows an increase of 5,766 items, and that posted for abroad, including the United Kingdom, an increase of 104,644. The increase of correspondence despatched to the United Kingdom amounted to 33,612 items.

The total number of parcels posted was 17,458 and of those delivered 37,344, representing a decrease of 127 and 121 respectively. Parcels posted for delivery in Cyprus show a decrease of 234, and those destined for other countries an increase of 107, on the figures for 1927. The estimated value for merchandise exported by parcel post was upwards of £13,816, a decrease of some £900. The principal articles so exported were, as previously, Lefkara lace and embroidery, cigarettes, and silk, cotton, and linen piece-goods.

Parcels received from overseas totalled 25,827 or 113 more than in 1927 to a value of £73,971 as against £72,774. A slight increase is again to be recorded in the traffic handled under the cash-on-delivery system. As in 1927, a number of cash-on-delivery parcels had to be returned to the country of origin as undeliverable.

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The year in general was satisfactory. Twenty-five licences to install and maintain wireless telegraphy receiving apparatus were issued under the provisions of the Wireless Telegraphy Regulations, 1925. Such licences entitle the holders to install and maintain apparatus for receiving messages only. The installation or maintenance of apparatus capable of transmitting messages is prohibited.

Owing to the fact that all receipts from the sale of the combined postage and revenue stamps are credited under one head, it is not possible to give an actual figure of earnings. The expenditure rose by £2,216 ; on the other hand receipts from stamps sold to philatelists were abnormally large owing to the issue of Jubilee stamps. Leaving this factor out of account, however, there is no doubt that the Postal Department is worked at a profit.

Telegraphs.

The Eastern Telegraph Company maintains a telegraph cable between Larnaca and Alexandria, and land telegraphs between the six principal towns of the island. During the summer season Platres and Mount Troödos are connected with the system. The only Government telegraph is a line along the railway from Famagusta to Morphou and Evrykhou.

Telephones.

There are small telephone exchanges, connecting the various Government offices and the residences of certain Government officials, at Nicosia, Famagusta, Larnaca, and, during the summer season, at Troödos. Trunk lines connect Troödos with various stations on the railway, and through the central exchange at Nicosia with Famagusta and Larnaca. Lines have also been added connecting Famagusta with Cape Andrea and Cape Greco. Telephones have assumed an importance in the conduct of Government business, but it has not yet been practicable to establish a system for the use of the general public. Some 166,450 calls were made in 1928.

Railways.

The Cyprus Government Railway consists of a line from the port of Famagusta, at the north-eastern end of the island, to Morphou, near its north-western extremity. It traverses the central Mesaoria plain and passes through Nicosia, the capital. From Morphou there is an extension into the foot-hills of Mount Troödos to Evrykhou in the Solea valley. The total length of line open for traffic is 76 miles.

A private line, working as a branch of the Government Railway, runs from the Skouriotissa mines in the Solea valley below Evrykhou down to the sea at Karavostassi, south of Morphou, where the Cyprus Mines Corporation has constructed a pier for the shipment of ore ; the length of this line is about five miles.

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The gross expenditure and the gross earnings of the railway for the year were £22,078 and £23,660 respectively, showing decreases of £1,568 and £1,516 on the figures for 1927. The passenger traffic showed a further considerable decrease owing to the constantly growing popularity of motor transport, which offers facilities that the railway, remote as it is from many villages, cannot afford. The goods tonnage carried also showed a decrease, due to a falling off in certain imports usually transported by rail.

No serious accidents occurred during the year, nor was any damage caused to the line by floods.

At the end of November Mr. D. Macmillan visited the Colony in order to inspect the railway and to report upon its working and the possibility of placing it upon a sounder financial basis.

Roads.

Little fresh construction work was carried out in 1928. In proportion to its population Cyprus is unusually well supplied with roads. The main and secondary roads alone amount to 2.82 miles per 1,000 of population. If village roads are included, the proportion is 9.28 miles per 1,000.

About 1,000 miles of the roads are traversable by motor-car. Of recent years there has been a very great increase in motor traffic, with a corresponding increased wear of the roads. In 1928, there were 1,530 motor vehicles in the island, 630 more than in the previous year.

£44,000 was spent on road work during the year.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Criminal Returns.

In 1928, 155 persons were tried by the Assize Court as against 109 in 1927. Twenty-one persons were tried for murder and ten for manslaughter, as against 7 and 19 in the previous year. There were 15 convictions for murder as against 5 in 1927. Summary convictions rose in number from 39,874 in 1927 to 43,274 in 1928. In most of these cases a fine was imposed, 172 fewer persons being summarily sent to prison than in the preceding year. The number of persons bound over in 1928 was 1,692 more than in 1927. The statistics again show a decrease in serious crime and an increase in minor crime. There was a satisfactory decrease in robbery and theft, animal stealing, and praedial larceny.

Civil Proceedings.

1,815 actions were brought in the District Courts, a decrease of 835 on the figures for 1927. Assistant District Judges' town cases fell from 3,971 in 1927 to 3,359 in 1928. Over the same period rural cases fell from 5,539 to 3,323. The greater part of the total decrease in litigation was due to a falling off in actions on bonds and other money claims.

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Military Police.

During the year, 65 recruits, 27 Moslems and 38 Christians, were enlisted, bringing the total number of " other ranks " up to 746. Of this number, 745 can read and write their own language and also speak a second language.

All other ranks, with the exception of two, went through a course of musketry training and fired range practice in accordance with the regulations of the Force. Lewis-gun practice was also carried out with satisfactory results.

The discipline and moral of the Force during the year were excellent.

Rural Police.

The actual strength of the Rural Police on 31st December, 1928, was 792. All of these could read and write one or more languages. 176 rural constables were enlisted during the year.

The discipline and efficiency of the rural constables were entirely satisfactory. They afforded most valuable assistance to the Police in the prevention and detection of crime, to the Commissioners in reporting offences against the Forest Laws, and to the Veterinary Officer in reporting outbreaks of disease. They also carried out the sheep, goat, and pig counting under the supervision of the Military Police.

Prisons.

Discipline was well maintained. The sanitary condition of the prisons was satisfactory and the health of the prisoners good. Convicts were employed on various kinds of industrial labour, including tailoring, bootmaking, carpentering, weaving, masonry, carpet-making, as well as on agricultural and reafforestation work.

The daily average number of persons detained in all the prisons was 572.55, as compared with 596.41 in 1927.

At Athalassa Reformatory for juvenile offenders the daily average number was 48.63. These juveniles were employed as in previous years on general farm work in connection with the Athalassa farm and on various other kinds of work calculated to suit them for useful trades. The vast majority of offenders are found to lead honest lives on their release from the reformatory.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure under this head amounted to some £110,400, as compared with £80,400 in 1927. As usual, road work constituted the principal item of expenditure. There are now about 900 miles of main and secondary roads under the control of the Department. Of the £44,000 spent on roads £33,000 was expended on maintenance and £11,000 on the improvement of existing surfaces and of dangerous corners. Owing to shortness of funds, little work of an extraordinary nature could be undertaken.

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The year's building programme, for which a provision of £8,000 was made, included a new maternity block at Nicosia Hospital, a pavilion for the display of Cyprus products at Larnaca, new hospital and Sisters' quarters at the Leper Farm, and a venereal clinic at Limassol.

Schemes for the improvement of water supplies were satisfactorily carried out or completed at 33 villages. The general outlines of the schemes were the same in each instance, consisting in the construction or improvement of chains of wells or aqueducts.

In addition, examinations were conducted and reports furnished by the officials of the Public Works Department in consultation with the Medical Authorities on the water supplies of 14 villages throughout the island. The necessary means to enable these schemes to be undertaken were provided half by Government and half by subscriptions from the inhabitants of the villages concerned.

Irrigation.

The usual works connected with the maintenance and repair of the irrigation reservoirs and channels, which are situated in the Eastern Messaoria, near Famagusta, were satisfactorily carried out under the supervision of the Irrigation Superintendent. The year was free from incident, and no damage from floods was sustained by the irrigation works.

It is now generally accepted that Cyprus is by natural configuration unsuited for the construction of irrigation works on a large scale, and that the best method of conserving the water supply of the country is by afforestation. Encouragement is also afforded to the extension of irrigation by the sinking of chains of wells, and by the use of mechanical means to raise to the surface subterranean water of which a sufficient quantity is available in most parts of the island. The gardens and orchards at Famagusta, from which port there is a considerable export trade in oranges, and fruit and vegetables in general, is an instructive example of the results that can be attained by the employment of air motors, which are steadily increasing in popularity.

During the year 32 borings were made, 17 of which were successful and produced in the aggregate some 1,500,000 gallons per day. The most interesting of these were 4 in the Morphou area which yielded a true artesian flow amounting to 500,000 gallons per day in the aggregate. In view of the success obtained an additional boring gear was ordered.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Except for the endemic prevalence of malarial fever, the climate of Cyprus is healthy and temperate, and with proper precautions there should be no difficulty in enjoying complete immunity from this disease.

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Public health in 1928 was satisfactory. Cyprus remained free from plague, typhus, and other virulent diseases common in the Near East. There was also no case of rabies during the year. The prevailing diseases, other than malaria and phthisis, were those of the digestive and respiratory systems, influenza and dysentery. There was again a serious outbreak of enteric in one village, but the general incidence of this disease is much lower than five years ago. There was also a mild epidemic of dengue fever in the autumn.

There was again a considerable increase in the number of trachoma cases. The increase, however, would seem to be apparent rather than actual and noticeable owing to the opening of special Eye Dispensaries and the appointment of Consulting Oculists.

Phthisis, according to the official figures, would appear to have been somewhat more prevalent than in 1927. Owing, however, to the extreme reluctance of private practitioners to report cases of phthisis, its actual incidence is hard to determine.

Malaria was less prevalent during the year under review than in the preceding year. Out of 58,456 patients attending the Government dispensaries in 1927, 16.19 per cent. had malaria; in 1928 out of 70,609 patients 12.1 per cent. had malaria. In 1927 12.9 per cent. of 42,455 children examined had enlarged spleens; in 1928 44,424 children were examined and the spleen rate was 9.4 per cent.

The anti-malaria works carried out in this year include the cleaning of streams and drains, the draining and reclaiming of marsh lands, screening or filling in of wells, and the stocking of tanks and wells with fish. House to house inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspectors, large quantities of larvicide were used and quinine was distributed free of charge to the population. Lectures accompanied by lantern slides were given in several places with a view to arousing the intelligent co-operation of the people in anti-malaria and sanitary work.

The infant mortality rate was lower than in 1927, but still unduly high. This is attributed in part to malaria, in part to inherited syphilis, and in part to want of proper care and attention. A new maternity block was added to the Nicosia Hospital during the year under review and Infant Welfare Centres were in operation at Nicosia and Larnaca. Special attention was also devoted to the training of midwives. The Venereal Disease Clinic opened at the end of 1927 in Nicosia functioned throughout the year with excellent results, and further clinics were opened at Larnaca and Limassol. Altogether 3,500 patients received treatment, which is given free.

At the close of the year, 126 inmates were detained at the Lunatic Asylum, as against 129 at its commencement. Thirty-six persons were discharged as cured and 8 died; the number of new cases admitted was 41. The accommodation of the institution was ample. Lunacy in Cyprus is generally of a mild form and restraint had to be resorted to in 2 cases only.

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The number of lepers admitted to the Leper Farm was 24. There were ten deaths; and the number of inmates detained at the close of the year amounted to 93 as compared with 81 at the close of 1927. Some of the inmates have been treated with gynocardate of soda, leprol, moogrol, and alepol with some success. It is satisfactory to record that the disease has recurred in none of the 7 cases released on parole.

The number of children at the close of the year in the Home for healthy children of lepers was 8, all of whom remained free from any sign of the disease.

The total number of births registered was 9,959, being 28.9 per thousand of the population as against 8,586 or 25.2 per thousand in 1927.

The total number of deaths was 5,235, being 15.2 per thousand as against 5,328 or 15.6 per thousand in 1927. The population thus showed a natural increase of 4,724 as against 3,258 in the preceding year.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education.

Education in Cyprus is not compulsory, and the control of the schools is left in the hands of the various religious communities which have their several governing bodies operating under the supervision of the Education Department. Considerable importance is attached to the benefits derived from education and a great interest is taken in the administration of the schools.

Under existing laws the teachers are appointed by the Board of Education, instead of by the village committees under the previous administrative system; they are paid on a fixed scale according to their service and class; and on retirement are eligible to receive gratuities. Duly qualified teachers have replaced unqualified teachers, and by the grant of gratuities it has been possible to discontinue the service of many old teachers who by reason of age or infirmity were incapable of the proper performance of their duties. On the financial side it has been practicable to do much in the way of opening new schools, particularly in the smaller villages, and of improving existing buildings.

The Moslem community is well supplied with schools. Those in the towns are well attended; but the village schools are small. In recent years a certain shortage of teachers was experienced. This has now been overcome, an adequate number of candidates being available from among past students of the Moslem Boys' Lycée and the Victoria Moslem Girls' School.

During the year under review there were 695 Greek-Christian, 262 Moslem, and 14 other denominational schools open, giving a total of 971, an increase of 63 as compared with the preceding year.

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The total expenditure on elementary education in 1928 was £104,810. It is estimated that the total number of children in Cyprus of elementary school age, six to twelve years, is about 64,000. Approximately 47,650 scholars are enrolled in the schools, leaving some 16,000 to be accounted for as not attending school. Of these about 12,000 are girls, nearly all the boys attending school for at least four years out of the six. It is indeed to be noted that in 1928 10,000 fewer girls were enrolled in the schools than boys, although males and females in Cyprus are in the proportion 100–99. It is estimated that not more than one third of the elementary school pupils continue their education beyond the elementary school age.

The schools of the smaller communities, Latins, Maronites, and Armenians, continued to make satisfactory progress. There is only one school for Jews. The Armenian schools at Nicosia and Larnaca are still the most progressive in spite of the strain upon their resources caused in recent years by refugees from Asia. These latter may now be considered as absorbed in the general population.

The progress of elementary education under the British Administration is well illustrated by a comparison of the returns for 1881 and 1928 :—

	Schools.	*Scholars.*	*Expenditure.*
1881... ...	170	6,776	£3,672
1928... ...	971	47,654	£104,810

Of this expenditure £59,000 was contributed by the Government as a grant-in-aid and the remainder was raised by direct taxation. In addition an amount of about £50,000 has been raised on loan for building purposes from Government or private sources, to be repaid in periods of five to ten years from local assessments.

Twenty-three new school buildings were completed during the year, ten others commenced and one purchased. Repairs and additions were carried out in some 140 cases, and thirty-five residences were provided.

Secondary Education.

Secondary schools are not under the control or inspection of the Education Department except in so far as some of them receive grants from the Government, on certain conditions, for the teaching of English.

The principal Moslem secondary schools are the Boys' Lycée and the Victoria (for girls) in Nicosia, and there are intermediate classes attached to the elementary school of each town. The programmes are arranged to prepare pupils for higher education at Constantinople. The buildings of the Victoria School have recently been extended and a new Boys' Lycée is under construction.

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There is a Greek-Christian gymnasium, or high school, in each town except Larnaca, which has a flourishing Commercial Lyceum, as well as a Priests' Training School. These schools prepare their pupils for the University of Athens, though relatively few of them are able to proceed so far. Moreover, Cyprus can provide only a limited number of professional and business openings, and even now many well educated boys are compelled to remain for some time without employment, a position of affairs which is both economically and morally unprofitable.

English is taught voluntarily and with some measure of success at all these schools, and the Moslem Boys' Lycée, Famagusta Gymnasium, and the Lyceum of Larnaca have English masters.

Other secondary schools are the English school at Nicosia (undenominational), also known as the Commercial College, which is conducted on the lines of an English grammar school, the American Academy at Larnaca (attached to the Reformed Presbyterian Mission), and the commercial school founded at Lemythou in 1912 by the late Mr. D. Mitsis, a native of that village.

There are three girls' private schools, one at Nicosia, attached to the Reformed Presbyterian Mission, and two at Limassol.

Government Examinations.

The Government examinations in English, Turkish, and Greek, and the Civil Service Qualifying Examination were, as usual, held during the year. About 570 candidates presented themselves for the examinations in English, of whom 340 were successful and were awarded certificates. The certificates awarded to the successful candidates are highly valued, not only by Government officials, but also by those seeking employment elsewhere.

Technical Education.

There are no technical schools proper in Cyprus apart from the advanced secondary schools to which reference has already been made. In the elementary schools needlework is widely taught, and silkworm eggs are supplied on a large scale by the Agricultural Department for instructional purposes. In a few schools carpentry is taught.

The agricultural school, which is maintained by the Agricultural Department and is described in another chapter of this report, has continued its work as in previous years. Apprentices are taken by the Government Railway and in the workshops of the Public Works Department, while in the Central Prison at Nicosia boot-making, tailoring, and carpet-making are taught.

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X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The tenure of land in Cyprus is governed by the Ottoman Land Law. Agricultural land in general (Arazi Mirié) is held by a title deed (Qochan), which is issued by the Land Registry Office, the real ownership remaining with the State. It can be alienated by sale, in which case a new title deed is issued and the transaction registered by the Land Registry Office. It is transmissible by inheritance within certain specified degrees of relationship, but cannot be transmitted by will. If it becomes vacant by failure of heirs, it escheats to the State (Mahlul).

Buildings, trees, gardens, vineyards, and wild grafted trees are known as mulk (Arazi Memluke), and included in this category are building sites within or near a town or village. Immovable property held under this tenure belongs in full to the owner, is alienated and inherited like movable property, and the provisions of the land code do not apply to it.

Unowned or waste land is known as Hali (Arazi Mevat).

This may, with the permission of the Government, and on payment of certain fees representing its equivalent value, be taken up and cultivated, the ownership, as in the case of Arazi Mirié, remaining with the State. Land left uncultivated for certain periods can be forfeited.

The charges on Arazi Mirié are (i) Verghi Kimat, a tax on all immovable property based on its assessed value. The valuation of the Colony was completed towards the end of 1928, and in accordance with Law XII of 1907 the rate per thousand of the assessed value has to be calculated so as to produce an annual revenue of £29,000. The valuation of the immovable property of the Colony is approximately £15,500,000. The Verghi Kimat tax on this basis amounts to 2 per thousand of the assessed value ; (ii) a fee on mortgage and transfer by sale or inheritance ; (iii) an education tax, which in towns is double the Verghi Kimat tax and in villages two-thirds of the Verghi Kimat tax.

Prices of land vary according to its adaptation to certain crops, its means of irrigation, and its position in relation to towns and villages. They vary therefore from a few shillings to £30 or £40 a donum ($\frac{1}{3}$ acre), while land in the vicinity of towns, suitable for building sites, may fetch over £200 a donum. The average size of a cultivated plot of land is 2 acres, and of the average holding $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres. An intending settler would, however, have difficulty in obtaining at a reasonable rate any considerable area of suitable land for development.

During the year, 269 acres of vacant land (Hali) were sold by Government for £230, the full estimated value being equivalent to

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an average price of 17*s.* 1*d.* per acre. One hundred and twenty acres of waste land were sold by auction, realising £240, an average price of £2 per acre.

Conditions as regards land tenure continue to improve, and the value of land increases steadily. The number of forced sales consequent on the foreclosure of mortgages and for the satisfaction of debts was less by 766 than in 1927, and the prices realised at such sales were more favourable.

An increase of transactions carried out by the Land Registry Department is observed principally under the registration of properties and under the registration of mortgages, the form of security now generally relied on by moneylenders. It is satisfactory to note that there was a decrease in attachments for debt, as compared with 1927 ; and the large increase in voluntary sales and the improvement in the prices realised are encouraging signs of amelioration in the economic condition of the peasantry. It is computed that on the 31st December, 1928, the total indebtedness of the Colony amounted to approximately £1,644,500, and the total value of immovable property to £15,500,000, or £45.92 per head of the population.

The work of land registration in Cyprus shows no sign of diminishing in importance. The formation in 1928 of over 170 Co-operative Credit Societies caused a considerable increase in the work of the Land Registry Office, especially in connection with the identification of thousands of old registrations with the new survey and valuation. It is, moreover, estimated that officials of the Department deal personally in a year with more than a quarter of the total adult population of the Colony.

In the year under review the survey of Nicosia within the ramparts was completed, and the survey of Famagusta and Varosha continued. Owing to the large increase in orange growing at Famagusta the area of the survey was considerably extended so as to cover the new gardens and the lands which are likely to become gardens in the near future. Extension surveys were made in other towns owing to the large increase in building operations. Satisfactory progress was made with the topographical survey of the forests ; and the reduction of the field plans to form maps of the island on the scale of 2 inches and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to the mile continued.

XI.—LABOUR.

Labour in Cyprus is plentiful and the conditions are on the whole good. There is no labour problem in the Colony. The vast majority of the workers are employed either by small agriculturists or by master craftsmen. Factories are very few, and any such institution as the so-called " factory system " is unknown. In short, conditions are oriental rather than occidental.

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The largest employers of labour are the Cyprus Mines Corporation, with an average pay roll of about 2,000; the Cyprus Asbestos Company, with from 800 to 4,500 employees according to the season; and the Public Works Department, which during 1928 employed an average of 1,200 labourers per diem.

The hours of work at the mines and for the Public Works Department vary from 8 to 10 hours per day. Generally speaking, the working hours most commonly recognised in the island are those from sunrise to sunset, though it is to be noted that the precise times of "sunrise" and "sunset" are not very rigorously interpreted or observed. The system of recognising that the hours of work are the hours of daylight has obvious advantages in a country where the lower classes are for the most part without clocks.

The rates of labour at the mines average about 18cp. (2*s.*) a day for men and 12cp. (1*s.* 4*d.*) for women and boys. In the Public Works Department the corresponding usual rates are 16cp. for men and 10cp. for women and boys, which are increased by 2cp. during the harvest season. The average rate of pay for all labour in the Public Works Department has increased from 15.05cp. per diem in 1927 to 15.15cp. per diem in 1928.

During the last four years the rate of pay for labour in the Public Works Department has increased by about ½cp. per annum. With the expansion of the mining industry, which, on account of the more dangerous nature of the work, pay higher rates than other private concerns or than Government, this increase is likely to be accelerated in the future.

Under the Mines Regulation Amendment Law of 1925 employers are liable, subject to the provisions of the Law, to pay compensation in the case of death or injuries to workers in the mines while so employed.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

Forty-two Bills were introduced into the Legislative Council during the year, thirty-nine of which were passed. The majority of these are of purely local interest or are referred to elsewhere in this report, and deal with the appropriation of public funds and with various minor amendments to existing laws. Of the remainder the most noteworthy or interesting are the following:—

Law 17.—To regulate the Employment of Young Persons and Children in Industrial Undertakings.

Law 18.—To provide for the Protection of Females in Domestic Service.

Law 19.—To amend the Law as to Partnership.

Law 20.—To amend the Law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes.

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Law 26.—To provide for the Vesting and Control of Water, the Construction of Waterworks, and for other purposes relating thereto.

Law 36.—To regulate Sanitation and other Matters in Hotels and Public Buildings.

Emigration and Immigration.

The emigration of Moslems to Asia Minor continued during 1928 but on a small scale. Many of those who took advantage of the terms of the Treaty of Lausanne and departed for Asia Minor on opting for Turkish nationality have since returned to Cyprus.

Emigration to Egypt and Greece proceeded as in previous years and a considerable number of Cypriots found employment in the Belgian Congo and other parts of Central Africa. Many also took advantage of the increased quota for the United States of America and proceeded to that country.

There was some immigration of Armenians on a limited scale. Cyprus does not afford a field for immigration to any large extent.

As in previous years the summer resorts of Troödos, Platres, and Pedoulas attracted many visitors from Egypt and Syria.

Co-operative Societies.

Remarkable progress has to be recorded in the co-operative movement for the year 1928. At the end of the year there were 268 co-operative credit societies and 13 co-operative societies, as against 97 and 15 respectively in 1927.

Banks.

The chief banks in Cyprus are the Ottoman Bank, with branches at Nicosia, Larnaca, Famagusta, Limassol, Paphos, Lefkara, and, during the summer months, Troödos; the Bank of Athens, with branches at Nicosia and Limassol; the Bank of Cyprus, with its head office at Nicosia, a branch office at Limassol, and agencies at Larnaca, Famagusta, Paphos, Kyrenia and Morphou; and the Ionian Bank, which established a branch at Nicosia in 1926.

There is also a Government Savings Bank, which at the end of the year had 113 depositors. The amount of deposits during the year totalled £3,398.

The Agricultural Bank established in June, 1925, under the joint auspices of the Government and the Ottoman Bank is becoming an important factor in the economic life of the Colony. At the end of the year negotiations with the Ottoman Bank were in progress with the object of placing increased funds at the disposal of the Bank. The Agricultural Bank works in close connection with the co-operative societies, and it is hoped that through these institutions, which make available for the farmer the ready money he would otherwise have to obtain from the money-lender, the general indebtedness of the island will in a few years show a very considerable improvement.

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Chamber of Commerce.

The Cyprus Chamber of Commerce was legally registered under the Companies (Limited Liability) Law of 1922 on 29th April, 1927. It was founded with the view of fostering the trade of the Colony by promoting a spirit of co-operative enterprise amongst the local merchants, and by facilitating commercial relationships with abroad. The Chamber is working in close connection with the London Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of British Industries, and the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire.

Loan Commissioners.

The Loan Commissioners continued the issue of loans to public bodies, and sums amounting to £6,313 were loaned to municipalities, etc., for the completion of electric light installations, the erection of stud stables and the improvement of water supplies.

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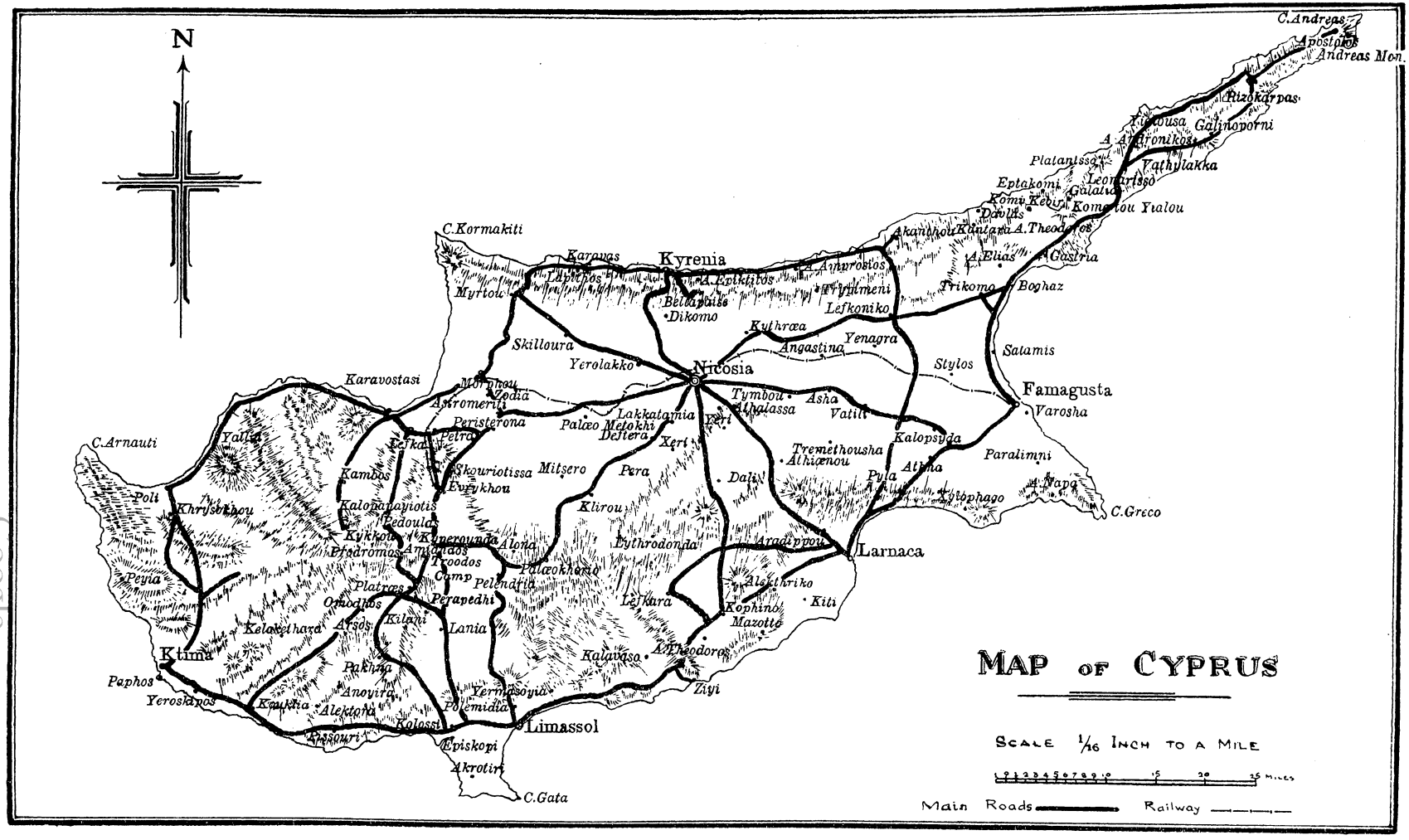
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Report for 1928.

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HONG KONG.

Report for 1928.

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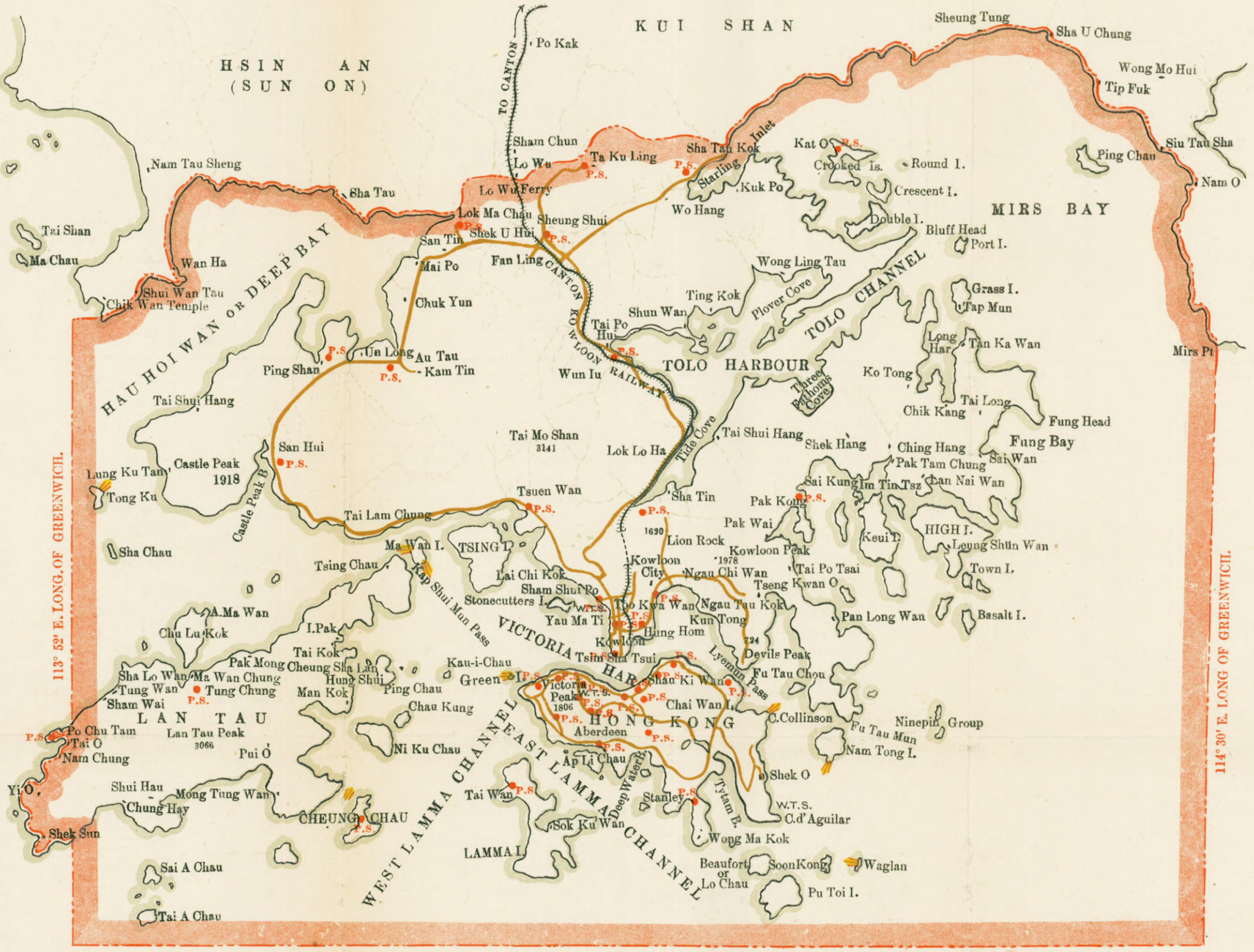
Map of Hong Kong and New Territories.



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History and Geography.

The Colony of Hong Kong is situated off the south-eastern coast of China between latitude 22° 9′ and 22° 17′ N. and longitude 114° 5′ and 114° 18′ E. The island is about 11 miles long and 2 to 5 miles in breadth, its circumference being about 27 miles and its area $28\frac{3}{4}$ square miles. It consists of an irregular ridge of lofty hills rising to a height of nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, stretching nearly east and west, with few valleys of any extent and little ground available for cultivation.

The island, then desolate and sparsely inhabited by fishermen, was ceded to Great Britain in January, 1841, the cession being confirmed by the Treaty of Nanking in August, 1842, and the charter bears the date of 5th April, 1843. All that part of Kowloon peninsula lying South of Kowloon Fort to the northernmost point of Stonecutter's Island together with that island was ceded to Great Britain under the Convention signed at Peking in October, 1860,

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and under the Convention signed at Peking in June, 1898, the area known as the New Territories including Mirs Bay and Deep Bay was leased to Great Britain by the Government of China for 99 years. The area of the New Territories and Islands is about 345 square miles.

Trade gradually developed as China became accustomed to foreign intercourse and it increased greatly owing to the opening of the Suez Canal. It now stands at about 200 million pounds sterling per annum.

Large local banking, dock, steamboat, and insurance companies were established between 1865 and 1872, and their numbers are being continually added to.

The Colony is the centre of an incessant flow of Chinese emigration and immigration (*see* XIII Miscellaneous).

The rainfall for 1927 was 107.86 inches, and for 1928, 71.15 inches. There was a serious shortage of rain from the middle of July to the end of the year; only 18.24 inches falling during this period as against an average of 39.50 inches. From October 19 to the end of the year only 0.850 inch fell, 0.585 inch of which fell on November 13-14. In 1927 the mean temperature was 71.4′ and in 1928, 72.4′, the mean minimum temperature during the latter year ranging from 79°9′ in July to 55°0′ in February and the mean maximum temperature from 88°5′ in July to 63°1′ in February. There was a heat wave from July 4 to August 4. The mean temperature for July, 83°5′, was the highest on record, except in 1889 when it was 83°6′. Typhoons are prevalent during the months July to October, but the Colony was not visited by a typhoon in 1928.

The currency of Hong Kong consists of the following coins (vide Order in Council, 2nd February, 1895):—

1. The silver dollar of Mexico.
2. British dollar.
3. The Hong Kong dollar, half-dollar, and 20 cent, 10 cent, and 5 cent pieces, issued from the Hong Kong Mint. (1866-68).
4. Half-dollars, 20, 10, and 5 cent pieces, imported from England, and coined at the Royal Mint and Birmingham Mint.
5. Copper coins representing one-hundredth part of the dollar (called one cent), and one-thousandth part of the dollar (mil or cash), imported from England.

Local weights and measures are the following:—

1 tael = 1.1⅓ oz.;

1 picul = 133⅓rd lbs. (avoirdupois)

7½ catties = 1 imperial gallon;

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I. General.

The year 1928 showed a continuation of that steady recovery in the financial and commercial position of the Colony reported for the year 1927, which is reflected in the financial figures of the year published in Part II.

The new development of the Kai Tak Aerodrome and Shing Mun Waterworks are typical of the new confidence and vision. The cost of these, though too great to be borne out of revenue was easily met by the flotation of the balance of the Public Works 6% loan issued at a premium of 3% which was promptly over-subscribed; such indeed was the response that further loans for the purpose of financing future development of the waterworks scheme may be assured of a hearty welcome by the Public.

The disastrous events of December 1927 had left Canton with an empty Treasury; a large area of the business quarter of the city had been destroyed by fire; the army of Cheung Fat-fui was still a menace; a Soviet had been established with much blood-shed in the Hoi Luk-fung districts, and brigandage was rampant throughout the province. On January the 4th Marshal Li Chai-sum returned to Canton from Shanghai to find his party again in power and began without delay to evolve some order out of the general chaos. By the end of the first quarter Cheung Fat-fui had been expelled, the communists scattered and driven into the mountains and the currency of the province had almost returned to parity.

By the end of February the situation had so improved that H.M's. Minister, Sir Miles Lampson, was able to pay a formal visit to Canton, and on 2nd March Marshal Li Chai-sum came to Hong Kong where he remained as a guest at Government House until March the 4th. From March the 9th to the 11th His Excellency the Governor was in return the guest of Marshal Li at Canton. This interchange of visits leading as it did to the resumption of friendly relations between the Governments of the two cities marked the end of the period of estrangement which had culminated in the boycott, and as a token of this the boycott committee was formally dissolved during the same month. Real progress was made during this period in dealing with brigandage and it could be said with truth that by the end of the year the countryside was safer for honest men than it had been since the revolution. Noteworthy events were the despatch of a permanent garrison to Bias Bay in the autumn and the operations against the bandits of the Ku Tau Mountains which took place in the winter.

General Chan Ming-shü succeeded Marshal Li as Chairman of the Provincial Council in December. This year saw also the formal recognition by Great Britain of the National Government of China.

Although the steps taken by the Kwangtung Government to suppress piracy in the Bias Bay area were not entirely successful, the number of piracies which took place was at least less than in the

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previous year and the prospect of co-operation between the Chinese and foreign Governments in this respect gives promise of greater success in the future.

The list of piracies which took place in 1928 is as follows:—

Date	*Vessels*	*Place*
9.3.28	Junk Hoi Cheung (Chinese Register)	Til Hau Kok in Sham Shui District.
14.4.28	S.S. Hsin Wah	Bias Bay.
1.5.28	A.P.C. Motor Boat.	Off Chung Chow Is. (3½ miles outside British Water).
6.5.28	Cargo Junk	Lunk Ku Yau.
	S.S. Tean	Hoi How.
26.9.28	S.S. Anking	Tai Chow How.

One of the most interesting events of the year was a Grand Tattoo held early in October, organized by a combined military and civilian committee. This, the first spectacle on such a scale ever organized in the Far East, was attended by over 10,000 persons, and welcomed as a huge success. The proceeds were devoted to charity and it is to be hoped that similar entertainments will be held in the future.

The Shanghai Defence Force, whose presence in the Colony was one of the features of 1927, had for the most part been transferred to Shanghai by the end of that year, leaving in the Colony the two British Garrison battalions and the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards; the latter were also transferred to Shanghai in June, 1928.

The Queen's Regiment, originally part of the Shanghai Defence Force, was relieved in December, by the Somerset Light Infantry. The Garrison was thus maintained at a strength of two British and one Indian battalions.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Cecil Clementi, K.C.M.G., sailed for home for eight months' furlough on 9th May, 1928, and the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. Mr. W. T. Southorn, C.M.G., acted as Officer Administering the Government during his absence.

The honours conferred on residents of Hong Kong by His Majesty the King included the appointment of the following:—

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe .....C.M.G.
Miss M. Sloan .....M.B.E.
Mr. H. K. Holmes .....C.B.E. (Civil)
Dr. S. W. T'so, LL.D. .....O.B.E. ,,
Mr. R. Sutherland, M.B.E. .....O.B.E. ,,
Miss L. E. Mackay .....O.B.E. (Military)
Mrs. C. G. Alabaster .....M.B.E. (Civil)
Mrs. H. R. Remington .....M.B.E. ,,
Mrs. E. D. C. Wolfe .....M.B.E. ,,
Captain Adey .....M.B.E. ,,
Mrs. Russell-Brown .....M.B.E. ,,
Subadar Major Piran Ditta, D.C.M...M.B.E. (Military)
Mr. A. J. Reed .....I.S.O.
Mr. P. T. Lamble .....I.S.O.

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On Sunday, November 18th, 1928, the four "Southampton" flying boats of the Royal Air Force, under Command of Group Captain M. Cave-Brown-Cave, arrived from Salamague, which is situated in the Northern Philippines. The boats left Singapore on November 1st, and had visited Kuchang, Labuan, Port Princessa, Manila and Salamague. After making one week's stay in Hong Kong they returned to Singapore via Tourane Bay, Coconut Bay, Bangkok, Victoria Point and Penang. On reaching Singapore, they had completed 5,340 miles in 41 days.

II. Finance.

1. The total revenue of the year amounted to $24,968,399 which sum exceeded the Estimate by $4,865,009 and the revenue for 1927 by $3,623,863.

It should be noted, however, that included in the revenue is a sum of $1,963,359 which was recovered from the funds of the Public Works Loan (1927) on account of expenditure on Loan Works during the years 1923-1926.

There were increases under all heads with the exception of Light Dues which showed a slight decrease. The most notable feature was the increase in Land Sales of $1,485,236 and another large increase of $517,790 was shown under Licences and Internal Revenue mainly due to Assessed Taxes, Liquor Duties and Opium Monopoly.

A considerable increase in Radio and Postal Traffic is reflected in the Post Office Revenue which exceeded the Estimate by $151,918 and improved conditions enabling the Kowloon-Canton Railway through service to Canton to be maintained resulted in an increase of $101,800.

2. The expenditure for the year amounted to $21,230,242 which was $952,803 less than the estimate and $385,177 more than the expenditure in 1927.

Substantial savings were effected in the votes of the Public Works Department and the Harbour Department and to a smaller extent in many other departments.

3. The following is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years.

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
1924	$24,209,640	$26,726,428
1925	23,244,365	28,266,817
1926	21,131,582	23,524,716
1927	21,344,536	20,845,065
1928	24,968,399	21,230,242

4. *Public Debt*:—In November the balance of the 6% Public Works Loan (1927) was issued at a premium of three per cent. The nominal value of this issue was $1,927,000 bringing the amount of the Loan, which is repayable in 1932, up to $4,927,000. The Sinking Fund amounted to £20,666.

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The Inscribed Stock Loans of 1893 and 1906 due for repayment in 1943 stood at £1,485,733 and Sinking Fund at £631,051.

5. *Trade Loan*:—A further 87 loans amounting to $3,403,560 were redeemed during the year thus reducing the number of the loans outstanding on 31st December, 1928, to 83 representing a sum of $4,697,906.13.

In four cases it was found necessary to enforce the security and this was done without loss.

III. Production.

Forestry, Agriculture & Botany.

Formation of Plantations.—Certain areas were definitely allocated for the purpose of permanent forestry reserves, greatly increased areas were consequently sown with *Pinus Massoniana* and other trees both *in situ* and broadcast.

Insect Pests.—Pine Tree Caterpillars made their appearance in the early months of the year, the damage done by them was not serious.

Protection of Plantations.—The total length of fire barriers in all parts of the Colony was increased by three miles and all old barriers maintained in good condition; the presence of the barriers undoubtedly saved many plantations from serious damage and in some cases total destruction.

Cultivation of Foreign Vegetables.—The amount of foreign vegetables grown is increasing annually and such vegetables find a ready sale among the European residents.

Inspection of Nursery Stock.—Eighteen consignments totalling 17,340 bulbs of Narcissus Tazetta were inspected and certified for export to Britain and the United States of America.

Numerous consignments of dried vegetable products were inspected and certified for export to the Philippine Islands.

Fisheries.

A considerable proportion of the boat population of Hong Kong supports itself by deep-sea fishing, in which pursuit a large number of junks are engaged. The villages of Aberdeen, Stanley, Shaukiwan, and also many in the New Territories, are largely dependent upon this industry for their prosperity. Fresh water fish is imported from Canton and the West River. There are oyster beds of considerable value in Deep Bay.

Mining.

The mineral resources of the Colony are small and little mining was done in 1928.

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MANUFACTURES.

Sugar.—The Sugar markets of the world continued, during 1928, to suffer from over-production, mainly in Java, and prices during 1928 were the lowest registered since the pre-war period. The hope that the over-production would be taken up in the replenishment of invisible stocks was not realised, and business generally was confined to hand-to-mouth buying. Whilst consumption in Europe increased by a nominal amount, that of America has registered a slight set-back.

Recent development of trade between Java and the consuming centres in China in washed sugar—a much cheaper process than refining—was one of the main factors leading to the permanent closing down of one Hong Kong sugar refinery and the stoppage for six months of another.

Hosiery.—There are established in the Colony over a score of Chinese-owned factories for the knitting of cotton hosiery and singlets. The factories use, except for the higher grades, Japanese yarn and find an ever-increasing demand for their products in South Africa, the Persian Gulf, and in many parts of the near East, wherever there is a large native population.

Ginger.—A dozen ginger-preserving establishments deal with the raw product which is imported from South China and supplied principally to Great Britain, Holland, the U.S.A. and Australia, to the extent of about £300,000 annually.

Rope Making.—Rope-makers have had a fairly satisfactory year.

SHIPBUILDING

Two ocean-going passenger vessels were built in local dockyards during 1928, four ocean-going motor vessels, and twenty smaller craft.

IV. Trade and Economics

In the opinion of merchants the recovery of trade—which more settled political conditions in China gave reason to expect—scarcely manifested itself in 1928 to the extent hoped for. The volume of business was, as far as can be estimated in the absence of trade statistics, no more than maintained.

The following figures, taken from returns for 1924 (the last available), show the principal countries with which trade is carried on:—

	Imported from	*Exported to*
United Kingdom	£ 9,450,000	£ 744,000
Germany	1,835,000	132,000
Belgium	696,000	19,000
Holland	326,000	107,000
France	319,000	79,000
Italy	259,000	6,000
Sweden	173,000	2,000
Other European Countries	189,000	16,000
United States of America	5,915,000	2,489,000

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Cuba, Central & S. America ...	169,000	933,000
Japan, Korea & Formosa	9,127,000	3,523,000
Australia	1,042,000	428,000
Canada	733,000	410,000
New Zealand	54,000	62,000
Foreign Countries Miscellaneous	195,000	38,000
TOTAL	£30,482,000	£ 8,988,000

The Scale of Hong Kong's trade with neighbouring countries is indicated by the following figures, also taken from the statistics for 1924:—

	Imported from	*Exported to*
India	£ 1,998,000	£ 805,000
Ceylon	21,000	133,000
Burmah	1,051,000	224,000
Straits Settlements & F.M.S. .	1,692,000	2,893,000
British North Borneo	277,000	129,000
China	*25,974,000	39,738,000
Netherlands East Indies	9,457,000	1,054,000
French Indo-China	10,994,000	5,135,000
Siam	6,262,000	2,530,000
Philippine Islands	654,000	1,719,000
TOTAL	£58,380,000	£54,360,000

Hong Kong's own consumption and production of commodities is comparatively small; one of its main functions is to act as an entrepot and clearing house for the products of South China and for the world's manufactured goods passing into South China.

However, owing to the fact that no duties are levied upon commodities, except liquors and tobacco, whereas China levies import and export duties upon all commodities, the tendency has been for a number of manufacturing processes to be established in the Colony, *e.g.*, sugar and tin refining, cement making and ginger preserving; there are also several factories weaving cotton manufactured goods, and hundreds of native workshops manufacturing rattan ware and similar products.

Much of the voluminous trade with neighbouring countries comprises purely Chinese commodities and is carried on by Chinese firms in Hong Kong with branches elsewhere. Trade with Europe, the Americas and Australasia is principally in the hands of British and foreign import and export firms who do business with the Chinese mercantile community established in Hong Kong, purchasing from them the products of China which have been assembled from the interior, and selling manufactured goods which pass on from wholesale to retail dealers and so to the small shopkeepers in the interior of of China. The lack of modern means of communication in China necessarily makes the process slow and difficult.

* This figure is obtained from the Chinese Maritime Customs Returns.

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The Chinese written language is a great hindrance to direct dealings between Chinese traders and merchants and manufacturers in foreign countries; another obstacle is lack of confidence by shippers overseas—the product of many regrettable experiences. The substantial British and foreign firms in Hong Kong, with their branches in the Treaty Ports of China, serve a definitely useful purpose in acting as intermediaries between Chinese and overseas traders. Owing to the hindrances to commerce resulting from the language difficulty and the lack of education of the proprietors of native manufactories it would be impossible for firms abroad to do business direct. As a rule letters would not be answered, and, even if contact were established, there would be no means of ensuring deliveries in accordance with sample. It is in this matter, especially, that the foreign exporters protect the interests of buyers abroad. Enquiries as to the South China market should be addressed to the General Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong.

V. Communications.

Shipping.

The total Shipping entering and clearing Ports in the Colony during the year 1928 amounted to 300,316 vessels of 44,883,765 tons which compared with the figures of 1927 shows an increase of 1,609 vessels and an increase of 756,604 tons.

Of the above, 52,278 vessels of 37,640,694 tons were engaged in Foreign Trade as compared with 51,289 vessels of 36,834,014 tons in 1927.

There was an increase in British Ocean-going shipping: 652 vessels of 1,132,261 tons.

Foreign Ocean-going vessels show an increase of 603 vessels and an increase of 61,970 tons.

British River Steamers show a decrease of 932 vessels and a decrease of 530,341 tons. This decrease is due to the following vessels not running owing to Fire, Shipwreck and other causes. S.S. "Sui Tai", "Kochow", "Anjou", "Paul Beau" and "Charles Hardouin".

Foreign River Steamers show an increase of 70 vessels and a decrease of 18,855 tons.

In Steamships not exceeding 60 tons employed in Foreign Trade there is an increase of 651 vessels with an increase in tonnage of 7,669 tons.

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Junks in Foreign trade show a decrease of 55 vessels and an increase of 153,976 tons. This is due to larger vessels being employed.

In Local Trade (*i.e.* between places in the waters of the Colony) there is a decrease in Steam Launches of 3,581 Vessels and a decrease in Tonnage of 105,069.

Junks in Local Trade show an increase of 4,201 Vessels entered and cleared and an increase of 54,993 tons.

Of vessels of European construction, 5,912 Ocean-going vessels, 3,927 River Steamers, and 4,249 Steamships not exceeding 60 tons entered during the year giving a daily average of 38.5 vessels as compared with 37.3 vessels in 1927 and 20.8 vessels in 1926

Ocean-going Vessels entered as follows:—

Flag.	Vessels.		No. of times entered.		Total Tonnage	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
British, ...	346	371	5,702	5,562	8,466,960	8,786,202
Japanese, ...	264	250	1,109	1,016	2,927,207	2,829,121
U.S.A., ...	79	83	245	251	1,495,775	1,471,424
Chinese, ...	81	75	1,315	1,670	847,073	812,037
German, ...	43	60	151	163	487,160	564,429
Danish, ...	11	14	48	70	153,341	196,780
Dutch, ...	41	36	251	245	849,766	823,506
French, ...	32	33	246	312	629,144	724,176
Italian, ...	6	5	26	26	141,566	143,918
Panamanian, ...	—	1	—	1	—	388
Norwegian, ...	61	74	472	419	657,005	613,765
Portuguese, ...	5	5	73	81	15,526	14,380
Swedish, ...	9	11	30	43	103,182	128,955
Mexican, ...	1	—	1	—	1,183	—
Total.	997	1,018	9,669	9,859	16,774,788	17,109,051

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A comparison between the years 1927 and 1928 is given in the following table :—

Class of Vessels	1927.		1928.		Decrease.		Increase.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British Ocean-going, ...	3,861	9,660,440	4,513	10,792,701	..	...	652	1,132,261
Foreign Ocean going, ...	6,767	16,039,724	7,370	16,101,694	...	...	603	61,970
British River Steamers, ...	7,549	7,300,082	6,617	6,769,741	932	530,341	...	...
Foreign River Steamers, ...	1,165	561,155	1,235	542,300	...	18,855	70	...
Steamships under 60 tons Foreign Trade...	7,893	233,374	8,544	241,043	...	...	651	7,669
Junks, Foreign Trade, ...	24,054	3,039,239	23,999	3,193,215	55	...	...	153,976
Total, Foreign Trade, ...	51,289	36,834,014	52,278	37,640,694	987	549,196	1,976	1,355,876
Steam Launches, Local Trade.....	219,555	5,771,970	215,974	5,666,901	3,581	105,069	..	...
Junks, Local Trade, ...	*27,863	*1,521,177	†32,064	†1,576,170	...	...	4,201	54,993
Grand Total...	298,707	44,127,161	300,316	44,883,765	4,568	654,265	6,177	1,410,869
			Net, ...		...	...	1,609	756,604

* Including 15,358 Conservancy and Dust Boats of 993,280 tons.
† „ 15,966 „ „ „ „ of 903,674 „

HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS.

Year	Number & Tonnage of Vessels in Foreign Trade entered & cleared.			Total Shipping Entered and Cleared.	
	Number	Total Tonnage	Percentage of British Tonnage	British Tonnage	Total Tonnage
1918	43,436	16,955,332	41.7	7,072,021	29,518,189
1919	41,985	21,072,129	43.0	9,095,805	35,615,169
1920	43,364	24,194,022	43.8	11,608,069	40,122,527
1921	52,222	27,852,616	44.3	12,766,492	43,420,970
1922	50,427	29,543,564	45.4	13,420,118	46,566,764
1923	49,900	35,947,534	47.0	16,920,491	53,402,239
1924	57,765	38,770,499	47.3	18,369,413	56,731,077
1925	41,336	32,179,053	47.6	15,321,935	49,520,523
1926	30,231	28,371,104	51.5	14,730,846	43,796,436
1927	51,289	36,834,014	45.7	16,960,522	44,127,161
1928	52,278	37,640,694	46.6	17,562,442	44,883,765

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Kowloon-Canton Railway.

All the through express trains between Kowloon and Canton continued to be hauled by British Section engines daily throughout the year, with the exception of two periods totalling 9 days when through traffic was temporarily suspended.

Monthly general revenues showed a steady and healthy increase, even throughout the summer months which are usually lean ones, until by the end of the year General Revenues had amounted to $820,994.90 against $713,424.85 for last year.

General Revenues for the first time since the opening of the line exceeded Working Expenses by the very satisfactory sum of $20,040.73 notwithstanding the inclusion of the exceptional sum of $30,526.76 being depreciation of rails in stock, which were written down to market value and depreciation debited to Working Expenses.

Liabilities under Capital decreased by $138,080.45. The accumulated deficit stood at $6,978,224.05 on December 31st.

The Fanling Branch Line was closed in April as of no further service to the public since the opening of the motor road to Sha Tau Kok. A good proportion of the track recovered as also of the rolling stock and buildings, was disposed of.

Additions to Capital Account were light as there were no engineering works of note. The principal items being the Improvements at Taipo Market Station $21,027.31 and Machines for Workshops $6,575.93.

Revenues from Rents which in 1927 amounted to $33,428.00 declined to $7,728.57.

The Railway suffered no damage from typhoons or rainstorms.

Permanent Way and Structures, Rolling Stock and Plant were maintained as usual.

The Workshops continued to be exceptionally busy until about November, as by arrangement with the Chinese Section 30 of their goods wagons were thoroughly overhauled and reconditioned at our shops.

The total train mileage amounted to 292,345½ miles, or 67,581 miles more than last year. This includes trains run over the Chinese Section to Canton.

The Rules applicable to the Public and to the Staff, as also the General Tariff, were all revised and reprinted.

As the result of a decision to adopt concrete sleepers generally, in replacing wooden ones, manufacture was re-started in April and 5,070 concrete sleepers turned out by the end of the year.

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Post Office.

Mails.—The number of mail receptacles of Hong Kong origin despatched during the year was 35,517 as compared with 35,159 in 1927—an increase of 358; the number received was 45,202 as compared with 43,638—an increase of 1,564.

Receptacles in transit, including those to and from British and Foreign Men-of-War, numbered 175,492 as against 194,200 in 1927—a decrease of 18,708.

The large decrease in the number of receptacles for Men-of-War was due to the withdrawal of a large number of vessels—including a flotilla of destroyers—consequent on the establishment of a more peaceful state of affairs in China.

Registered Articles and Parcels.—The number of registered articles handled amounted to 806,980 as compared with 833,177 in 1927—a decrease of 26,197; of these figures 15,946 were in respect of Hong Kong postings and 10,251 transit articles.

The figures for insured letters were 17,430 and 17,648 respectively —an increase of 218.

Parcels, ordinary and insured, which were dealt with reached a total of 423,880 as against 424,047 in 1927—a decrease of 167.

Wireless.

1. The year 1928 saw considerable advances made in the reorganisation and establishment on a sound basis of the wireless services of the Colony.

2. The Kowloon Royal Observatory W/T Station was closed as a transmitting station, the transmitter installed there being thoroughly overhauled, redesigned and installed at Victoria Peak for broadcasting and commercial services. The Observatory station is now used as the receiving station for the ship services and as a distant reception station for the Radio Telegraph Office. The Observatory Station operates, by remote control the transmitters installed at Cape D'Aguilar which are used for the ship services. The station is also used for the reception of time signals, and long distance weather reports.

3. Cape D'Aguilar is now a gouped transmitter station for ship services and for point to point transmitters. Reception is not carried on at this station, operation and control of transmitters being done by remote control from the Radio Telegraph Office and the Observatory Station.

4. Early in the year a new site for a wireless station, to be built and organised on the most up to date lines, was chosen at Victoria Peak. A considerable amount of progress has already been made in the erection of station buildings, masts etc., and two transmitters are already installed there, one working on 300 metres for broadcasting musical programmes, weather reports, news bulletins etc. and when not in use for broadcasting working on 850 metres for

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commercial services, and the other one working on 49 metres for communication with points in South China and French Indo-China. The station which is still in course of erection will, when completed, accommodate high power short wave long distance transmitters for commercial working with practically all parts of the world. The call signal of Victoria Peak Wireless Station is ZBW and its position is Lat. 22°16′ 38″.56 N., Long. 114°08′ 31″.95 E.

5. The Radio Telegraph Office which was transferred from the 1st Floor of the General Post Office Building to the Ground Floor of the new P. & O. Building during the month of October is the controlling station for all services. R.T.O. operates by remote control the transmitters installed at Cape D'Aguilar and Victoria Peak which are used for fixed point services, carries on direct and indirect reception, and accepts and distributes radiotelegraphic traffic. Commercial wireless telegraph services are maintained between numerous points in South China, French Indo-China, Siam, British North Borneo, Yunnanfu, Philippines, Dutch East Indies, Dutch Borneo, American Continents, Europe, etc.

The revenue collected by the Post Office during the year from radiotelegrams amounted to $162,517.66, an increase of $20,639.21 on the amount collected in 1927.

Advices of vessels signalled at the Lighthouses yielded $1,021.00, Semaphore messages, $3.60 and Wireless Receiving Station Licences $482.31. The total Revenue from the Telegraph Service amounted to $162,999.97.

The number of paid radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 38,422 consisting of 322,041 words against 22,793 consisting of 209,171 words in 1927, and 51,951 were received consisting of 477,109 words as against 26,326 consisting of 276,078 words.

In addition to the paid traffic figures given above the wireless service is responsible for the reception of time signals daily from Bordeaux, Rugby, Malabar and Nauen, for the transmission of time signals to ships in the China Sea, the reception of press messages amounting to 373 messages 211,156 words from Rugby, the collection and distribution of meteorological traffic, having forwarded 2,966 messages 205,194 words, and received 10,346 messages 200,623 words, the reception of Saigon Health Bulletins once weekly, the reception and dissemination of distress, piracy and navigation messages, the transmission and reception of Government messages, etc., etc.

An interesting development during the year 1928 was the commencement of local broadcasting. The programmes, which occupy approximately four hours daily consist of musical items, speeches, weather reports, news bulletins, church services, concerts etc., are transmitted by the transmitter installed at Victoria Peak and controlled from the studio on the First Floor of the General Post Office Building. Broadcasting is gaining in popularity and the demand for receiving licences for which a charge of $5.00 per annum is made, is becoming greater.

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Cables.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company (British) by means of three cables to Singapore, one direct and one each *via* Labuan and Cape St. James respectively, provide good connections with Europe *via* India, with Australasia, and with the other British Colonies and possessions. By their cable to Manila connection is made with the direct American cable, thence to San Francisco. Two cables to Shanghai, belonging respectively to the Eastern Extension and to the Great Northern (Danish) Companies, *via* Foochow and Amoy respectively, give a good connection with Shanghai, North China, Japan and Russia; and the system of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. gives a good service to Europe *via* Asiatic Russia.

Telephones.

Telephonic communication, provided by the Hong Kong Telephone Co., is available to most parts of the Colony.

VI. Justice, Police and Prisons.

Serious Crime in 1928 showed a slight increase over 1927—5,351 cases against 4,879. Minor Crime showed a considerable decrease 14,077 cases against 19,891 cases in 1927. The increase in serious crime is accounted for by the increase of burglaries and larcenies in dwellings, and felonies other than murder, robbery, assault with intent to rob, kidnapping, piracy and unlawful possession. Larceny cases showed a marked decrease. In the minor offences, "Miscellaneous" showed a decrease of 5,000 cases.

There was an increase of 2 murders, and a decrease of 1 robbery.

The murder of Mr. Lee Hysan, a well known member of the Chinese Community, was the most serious outrage of the year. The victim was shot in the back at point blank range while entering his Club, which was accessible only from a little frequented back lane: no hue and cry was raised, and the murderer made good his escape.

There were no sudden variations in the population of the Colony during the year, as conditions in the neighbouring Province remained generally peaceful.

In May, the Japanese Boycott, which was reflected in the Colony, resulted in nothing more serious than a few isolated cases of window smashing, which were promptly dealt with and checked.

Piracy.—Five Piracies were recorded, the two principal being the S.S. "San Nam Hoi" in January, and the S.S. "Anking" in November. The Chief Officer of the "San Nam Hoi" and 2 Indian Guards were killed. 15 of the pirates were captured, and 7 were executed by the Kong Mun Authorities. In the "Anking" Piracy, the Chief Officer, the Chief Engineer and Chinese Compradore were killed and

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the bodies thrown overboard. One of the pirates was afterwards arrested in Hong Kong and executed. A number of piracies on junks occurred during the year in waters adjoining the Colony.

Piracy in the Canton River Delta showed an increase.

There were no serious strikes or industrial troubles during the year.

Labour Associations.—Three events of importance took place:—

(1) Proscription of Cha Kui Tsung Kung Wui.

(2) Proscription of Ki Tuk Kau Siu Nin Tuen.

The closing of these two centres evoked no opposition, and was merely a continuation of the policy of closing all seditious Political Associations operating under the guise of Labour Unions.

(3) The Chinese Seamens' Associated Union, a local Union working in conjunction with local Institutions opened at the end of 1928.

A most successful "Tattoo" was held early in October at which the attendance reached the large figure of 10,000. A Public Entertainment on such a large scale naturally required very special Police, and particularly Traffic arrangements which were carried out to the satisfaction of the general public attending the "Tattoo".

The total number of persons committed to Victoria Gaol was 5,756 as compared with 7,740 in 1927. Of these 1,117 were committed for criminal offences against 1,740 in 1927. Of committals for non-criminal offences there were 35 less for hawking without a licence, and 19 less for unlawfully cutting trees, than in 1927.

The daily average of prisoners confined in the Gaol was 1,071 the average for 1927 being 1,189 and the highest previous average being 1,116 in 1925. The percentage of prisoners to population, according to the daily average of the former and the estimated number of the latter was 0.100. The average percentage for the last ten years was 0.121. Owing, however, to the large floating population, which is constantly moving between the Colony and Chinese Territory, the percentage of crime to population does not convey an accurate idea of the comparative criminality of the residents of the Colony. The Victoria Gaol has accommodation for 700 prisoners including patients in Hospital. The Branch Prison at Laichikok has accommodation for 450 prisoners.

The prison discipline was satisfactory, the average of punishments per prisoner being 0.49 as compared with 0.52 in 1927 and 0.49 in 1926.

Prisoners are employed at printing, book-binding, tinsmithing, mat-making, tailoring, carpentering, soap-making, gardening etc. Practically all the Government printing and book-binding is done in Victoria Gaol.

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VII. Public Works.

Buildings.

During the year progress as stated was made on the following works:—

Hong Kong.—The New Hospital at Victoria Gaol, an enclosed Revolver Range for the Police, fifty two Village Houses at Wong Nei Chong together with School and Public Trough Closet were completed. The new Reception Block at Victoria Gaol, an additional storey to the Colonial Secretariat Building and the new Wireless Telegraph Station at the Peak were nearing completion by the end of December.

Kowloon.—An open Market at To Kwa Wan and Public Conveniences at King's Park were completed together with a temporary block of new Class Rooms to the Central British School and the raising of the Time Ball Tower on Signal Hill. A new Store at the Yaumati Slipway was commenced in October.

A number of minor works were also carried out in the district.

New Kowloon.—An open Market at Kowloon City, Quarters for Sextons at Sai Yu Shek Cemetery and 2 Public Trough Closets and 1 temporary latrine at Shamshuipo were completed.

Public Latrine and Bath-house at Shamshuipo and Extension to Shamshuipo Market were in course of erection.

New Territories.—The erection of a new School at Cheung Chau and Pill Boxes for Military Authorities at Lo Wu and Sha Tau Kok were completed. Block House for police at Lin Tong was commenced in June and was nearing completion by the end of the year.

Communications.

Hong Kong.—Approach road to Tung Wah Hospital at Sookunpoo and Path to Revolver Range at Bowen Road were completed. The site formation and road construction at Wong Nei Chong was nearing completion by the end of the year.

Kowloon.—Waterloo Road Extension to boundary and earthworks for To Kwa Wan Road were completed and the former was partially surfaced by the end of the year. Argyle Street Extension to a width of 60 ft. was nearing completion by the end of the year.

New Kowloon.—Road to Dairy Farm Lots at Diamond Hill and Waterloo Road Extension to foothills were completed. Formation of roads in Kowloon Tong Development Area was nearing completion and the Widening of Castle Peak Road was in progress.

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New Territories.—Tai Po Bridge reconstruction and road diversion, and Patrol Path from Ta Ku Ling to Lin Ma Hang were both completed early in the year.

Drainage.

Hong Kong.—Considerable progress was made with the reconstruction of Wong Nei Chong Nullah, Section No. 3 being completed by the end of November, and Section No. 4 (in front of Jockey Club Stand), commenced in March, being more than half finished.

New sewers and storm water drains were constructed to a length of 8,833 feet, and stream courses (other than the Wong Nei Chong Nullah) trained to a length of 1,618 feet.

Kowloon.—The training of the large nullah in the Cemeteries Valley at Homuntin, commenced the previous year, was completed.

New sewers and storm water drains were constructed to a length of 6,400 feet.

Trenches were formed and swamps filled in, in connection with the anti-malarial campaign.

New Kowloon.—New sewers and storm water drains were constructed over the area generally to the length of 4,300 feet, and on the Kowloon Tong Development area to the length of 6,900 feet.

The construction of one side wall and invert to nullah on East side of Kowloon Tong Development area was completed.

Anti-malarial work was continued.

New Territories.—Various works of an anti-malarial nature were carried out at Taipo and Taipo Market. Sewers were constructed to the length of 200 feet, while about 300 feet of stream course training was accomplished.

Water Works.

Hong Kong.—The Eastern Filter Beds and Service Reservoir were completed. A new 12″ main has been laid in Queen's Road East from Arsenal Street to Garden Road and a new 18″ main laid from Bowen Road Service Reservoir to Kennedy Road. A 2″ wrot iron pipe was laid across Aberdeen Harbour to provide a street fountain supply to Aplichau.

Seven thousand and sixty-eight feet of 6″ pipe and 372 feet of 8″ pipe have been laid in the Praya East Reclamation Roads.

Investigations, preparation of preliminary drawings and quantities in connection with the Aberdeen Water Scheme were continued.

Kowloon.—The following lengths of distributing mains were laid: —4″ C.I. 2,030 lin. ft., 6″ C.I. 4,020 lin. ft., and 8″ C.I. 1,820 lin. ft.

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New Kowloon.—An additional length of 3,190 lin. feet of 6″ C.I. mains were laid in the Kowloon Tong Development area.

The approach path to Kowloon Reservoir was regraded and surfaced.

New Territories.—The 3″ main at Taipo was extended to Kam Tsin Village. An intake dam with conduit and pipe line was formed on the Needle Hill Stream to augment the Shing Mun Supply.

Shing Mun Valley Scheme.—The laying of the 1st 24″ diameter steel main was continued, 9,100 lin. ft. being laid during the year, bringing the total laid to-date to 12,330. lin. ft.

The installation of the Paterson Rapid Gravity Filtration Plant was satisfactorily completed and tested during the year. This plant is now capable of filtering 5 million gallons per day and provision has been made for future extension to 10 million gallons per day.

A commencement was made towards the end of the year on the excavation for the Service Reservoir in the Shek Lai Pui Valley and fair progress was made.

Reclamations.

Hong Kong.—Praya East, 87 acres were reclaimed out of a total of 90 acres.

The North Point Scheme which is a private undertaking was completed.

Kowloon.—Tai Kok Tsui, about 54 acres, was completed.

New Kowloon.—A contract was let for the construction of the sea wall—about 1,600 feet in length—to protect the Shamshuipo Reclamation. Approximately 600 lin. feet of walling had been completed at the end of the year.

Approximately 1.7 acres reclaimed at Cheung Sha Wan in connection with the dumping of refuse.

The un-reclaimed portion of the Kai Tak Reclamation was filled in by Harbour Dredgings to a height of about 2 feet below formation level, and the filling protected by a sea wall. The area reclaimed to finished levels is about 120 acres, the area to be completed to formation level is approximately 85 acres.

Little progress was made with the Kowloon Bay West Reclamation.

New Territories.—The Standard Oil Co. continued with the formation of a site at Lai Chi Kok. About 90% of the work has been completed.

Piers.

Kowloon.—The repair work to the Police Pier at Kowloon Point was completed.

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SLIPWAYS.

New Kowloon.—It is proposed to use the Kai Tak Reclamation as a commercial aerodrome. A slipway 380 feet in length providing a depth of 6 feet of water at L.W.O.S.T. is under construction at the Eastern frontage of the reclamation.

SURVEYS.

Further triangulation was carried out to fix additional ground control stations required in connection with new map now in course of preparation.

VIII. Public Health.

The estimated population of the Colony is as follows:—

(1) *Non Chinese*		18,150
(2) *Chinese*:—		
City of Victoria, ...	550,000	
Villages of Hong Kong	43,000	
Kowloon (and New Kowloon) ...	264,890	
Population afloat	103,400	
New Territories, ...	96,250	
Total Chinese population		1,057,540
Total Civil population		1,075,690

The population of Hong Kong is a very variable one and, owing to the large unstable, floating population, and to partial birth registration, no reliable means are available for estimation. For purposes of statistics, the estimated population of the New Territories has been subtracted.

The Crude Birth Rate for the year 1928 was 9.5 per 1,000; 9.2 per 1,000 among the Chinese Community and 20.4 per 1,000 among the non-Chinese as compared with 8.2 and 19.6 in 1927.

These figures are very inaccurate and unreliable owing to incomplete registration of Chinese births (especially females) and immigration. There are signs, however, that registration is increasing among the Chinese Community. The non-Chinese rate is more trustworthy.

The Crude Death Rate was 15.06 per 1,000; 15.14 per 1,000 among the Chinese Community and 11.20 per 1,000 among the non-Chinese. As registration is essential before burial can take place the figures for deaths are much more accurate and reliable.

The ratio of Infantile Deaths (under 1 year) to total deaths for the year 1928 was 29.5% which is midway between the figures for the years 1927 (31.6) and 1926 (27.3).

The Zymotic Death rate was .45.

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The deaths from Notifiable Infectious Diseases in order of incidence were as follows:—

Disease	Chinese	Non-Chinese	Total
1. Small Pox	303	1	304
2. Typhoid	72	2	74
Paratyphoid	1	0	1
3. Diphtheria	26	1	27
4. Cerebro Spinal Fever	13	3	16
5. Puerperal Fever	13	2	15
6. Plague	2	0	2
Totals	430	9	439

There was a serious epidemic of Smallpox in the last quarter of the year which is still in progress (March 1929); up to 31st December, 1928, there were 616 cases notified of which 304 or 50% have died.

The deaths from special Diseases and locally important causes were as follows:—

Disease	Chinese	Non-Chinese	Totals
Malaria	289	6	295 (1)
Beri-beri	665	2	667 (2)
Respiratory Diseases:—			
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) and Phthisis	4,388	23	4,411 (3)
Non-tubercular	4,103	32	4,135 (3)
Other forms of Tuberculosis	795	11	806
Venereal disease (Syphilis)	275	—	275
Dysentery	290	1	291
Heart disease & Heart failure	269	11	280
Infantile enteritis and Gastro-enteritis (under 1 year)	391	5	396 (4)

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(1) Further antimalarial work is needed in the Colony but many of the cases are likely to have been imported from China.

(2) There is considerable doubt as to the accuracy of these figures as the disease is by no means easy to diagnose or differentiate.

(3) The total figure for Respiratory Diseases and Pulmonary Tuberculosis is 8,546; that is an average of twenty deaths a day from lung diseases. This figure far exceeds those from all other causes of death in the Colony. Over half the deaths are due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis which is due to bad housing conditions and overcrowding among the poorer section of the Chinese community. The climate and conditions of the Colony are most inimicable to cure.

(4) These and other nutritional diseases are world wide causes of infantile mortality. In death returns they are not always clearly defined. Malnutrition, non-breast feeding, neglect and dust-borne bacteria are the chief factors.

The deaths reported in the Coroners' Returns (Chinese only) are as follows classified according to age and sex:—

Age Periods	Males	Females
1. Under 2 years	2,103	2,350
2 Over 2 years	942	434
Totals	3,045	2,784

Suicides and Deaths from Accidents or Violence amounted to 378:—

(i) Chinese 358
(ii) Non-Chinese 21

These figures include a very large proportion of dumped bodies, especially heavy among infants. This dangerous and revolting practice is hard to eradicate among an ignorant population.

There were four cases of human plague reported in 1928; two on 4th May, one on 23rd June and one on 23rd July, the last two being fatal. The Colony had been free of plague for over four years and it is likely that the infection was brought from China by persons who had gone to their native district to worship at the tombs of their ancestors. A thorough house cleansing was instituted at once in the areas from which the cases came and it is possible that these measures prevented the spreading of the disease.

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Systematic rat catching was carried out throughout the year, the total number of rats and mice destroyed being 155,572, (Hong Kong 95,312, Kowloon 60,260). Of these none was reported from the mortuaries as Plague infected.

The routine work authorised under the by-laws for the Prevention of epidemic endemic and contagious or infectious disease was carried out throughout the year; 96,875 floors were cleansed in Hong Kong and 55,710 floors in Kowloon. Practically all premises were cleansed twice in the year, many were cleansed three times and a few four times. Systematic limewashing of all domestic premises within the areas specified which are occupied by the members of more than one family was similarly supervised, 26,588 floors being limewashed in Hong Kong and 17,291 in Kowloon.

These two measures ensure a fair standard of cleanliness among the poorer classes of the community.

There were no cases of hydrophobia throughout the year; 142 dogs were placed under observation and 14 dog brains were examined by the Government Bacteriologist for evidence of rabies with negative results in all cases.

Government Hospitals.

Civil Hospital.—This hospital consists of three blocks and contains 198 beds in 23 wards. At times of pressure this number has been increased to 230 beds, 95 beds are allotted to the University Clinic. 4,995 In-patients were treated (4,894 in 1927). Of these 1,286 were under the Staff of the University (1,051 in 1927). The daily average number of patients was 175. Attendances at the Out-patient Department numbered 56,947. (35,962 in 1927). The greater part of the work of this Department is done by the Staff of the University.

Attached to the hospital is an isolated Maternity Hospital containing 23 beds. 776 patients were admitted during the year (686 in 1927). All the patients, except a few treated by the Government Medical Officers, were under the care of the University Professor of Obstetrics and his assistants. Of the admissions 10 were Europeans and 766 Asiatics.

Lunatic Asylum.—The Asylum is situated close to the Civil Hospital and is under the direction of the Medical Officer in charge of that hospital. European and Chinese patients are separated, the European portion containing 13 beds in separate wards and the Chinese portion 19 beds.

298 patients of all races were treated during 1928 and there were 20 deaths.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is situated on the western outskirts of the city—it is used mainly for the treatment of Small-pox. The Hospital contains 26 beds to which 11 patients were admitted (9 in 1927).

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Victoria Hospital.—This hospital is situated on the Peak and consists of a Main Block and a Maternity Block.

There are 50 beds in the main block to which 529 patients were admitted, and 25 beds in the Maternity Block to which 67 were admitted.

Kowloon Hospital.—Situated on the mainland has 43 beds. 1,204 patients were treated in 1928 as compared with 980 in 1927.

TUNG WAH HOSPITAL (Government aided).

Number of beds	500
Number of patients treated in 1928	11,486
Number of patients treated in 1927	9,726

INFECTIOUS DISEASES BRANCH.

Number of beds	63
Number of patients treated in 1928	126
Number of patients treated in 1927	31

KWONG WAH HOSPITAL, KOWLOON, (Government aided).

Number of beds	250
Number of patients treated in 1928	8,822
Number of patients treated in 1927	7,593

The Hospitals are under the supervision of a Visiting Medical Officer who is a member of the Medical Department.

IX. Education

The total numbers of pupils at schools in the Colony, excluding the Police School, are:—

	Number of Pupils		Total
	English Schools	Vernacular Schools	
Government Schools	3,674	385	4,059
Military School	128	—	128
Excluded Private School	167	—	167
Grant Schools	4,147	1,011	5,158
Vernacular Schools, Urban District	—	35,631	35,631
Vernacular Schools, Rural District	—	5,290	5,290
Private English Schools	6,377	—	6,377
Technical Institute	574	—	574
Total	15,067	42,317	57,384

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The chief Government Schools are Queen's College, King's College, and three District Schools for Chinese boys, the Belilios Public School for Chinese girls, the Vernacular Middle School and two Vernacular Normal Schools, and the Ellis Kadoorie School for Indians.

The Central British School and Kowloon Junior, Victoria, and Quarry Bay Schools for children of British parentage have an average attendance of 293. There is also a school for children of the Peak District with an average attendance of 49.

There are 5 Grant-in-Aid Anglo-Chinese Schools for boys and 6 for girls, and 4 Grant-in-Aid Vernacular Schools for girls.

The Hong Kong Technical Institute affords an opportunity for high education of students who have left school. Instruction was given in 1928 in Building Construction, Field Surveying, Mathematics, Chemistry (Practical), Metallurgy, Physics, Electricity, French, Shorthand, Sanitation, Seamanship and Cookery. Classes for men and women teachers, both "English" and "Vernacular" are a feature of the Institute.

The lecturers are recruited from members of the medical and educational professions in the Colony, and from the Department of Public Works, and receive fees for their services. The Institute is furnished with a well equipped chemical laboratory and excellent physical apparatus.

The expenditure of the Education Department in 1928 was $1,100,295.08 and the revenue collected from Government School fees was $172,943.76.

The University of Hong Kong.

The University of Hong Kong was incorporated under a local University Ordinance, 1911, and opened in 1912. It is a residential University and open to students of both sexes.

The late Sir Hormusjee Mody bore the entire expense of the erection of the main building and additions have been made through the liberality of benefactors of varied nationality and domicile. The latest addition to the buildings is a workshop built out of a contribution from Sir Robert Ho Tung.

The annual income of the University now amounts to about $574,000 of which about $315,000 comes from endowments and $50,000 from Government. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire gave £40,000 to the original endowment fund and subsequently $100,000 for engineering equipment. The Rockfeller Institution has endowed the University with three chairs in surgery, medicine and obstetrics, the endowment being in each case $250,000.

The expenditure for the year 1928 amounted to $542,700.

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The University includes the three Faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Arts. Admission to all faculties is conditional upon passing the matriculation examination of the University or some examination recognised as equivalent thereto.

The Faculty of Medicine provides a six year course of study in the usual pre-medical and medical sciences, leading to the degree of M.B. and B.S. The degrees of M.D., and M.S., may be obtained for postgraduate work. The degrees above mentioned are recognised by the General Medical Council for registration in Great Britain.

The Faculty of Engineering provides a four year course in practical and theoretical engineering, leading to the degree of B.Sc., (Eng.). Fourth year students specialize in civil, in mechanical or in electrical engineering. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.Sc., (Eng.).

The Faculty of Arts includes departments of pure arts and science, social science, commerce and a department for training teachers. The course is in all cases one of four years and leads to the degree of B.A. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.A.

With a view to securing the maintenance of the desired standard —which is in all three faculties that of a British University degree— external examiners are, in all faculties, associated with the internal examiners in all annual final examinations. In the Faculty of Engineering, but not in other faculties, degrees with honours are granted, the standard being assessed by special examiners chosen from amongst the external examiners in the University of London.

The degree of LL.D., is granted, *honoris causa*.

The site of the University was given by the Government of Hong Kong. As subsequently enlarged by minor grants and by purchase, the University estate covers an area of 709,789 sq. ft. The view from the grounds over the harbour is magnificent and the grounds are naturally beautiful.

In the main buildings are housed the chemical and physical laboratories, the University library and portions of the engineering laboratories. They further include the Great Hall, a Senate room and the lecture and class rooms used by the Faculty of Arts and for general purposes.

Special medical buildings include schools of anatomy, physiology, pathology and tropical medicine, erected at the cost of Chinese gentlemen resident in the Colony. Clinical instruction is given at the Government Civil Hospital.

Special engineering buildings include:—

(*a*) a power station, with internal combustion engines of varied types which are maintained for instructional purposes;

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(*b*) a primemovers (steam) and hydraulics laboratory, at present housed in a converted pumping station, formerly the property of the Government; and

(*c*) A workshop, for practical instruction of students.

Electrical machinery, electrical technology, the testing of materials and experimental mechanics are dealt with in the main building.

The larger part of the engineering equipment was the gift of British engineering firms.

Other buildings upon the estate include:—

(*a*) the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge

(*b*) Staff-quarters

(*c*) the resident hostels, and

(*d*) the University Union Building.

Unless exempted from residence (such exemption being ordinarily granted on the ground that the student's "manner of life" is not such as is catered for in the hostels), every matriculated student is required to reside either in a University or recognised hotel.

The University hostels are three in number—Lugard Hall, Eliot Hall and May Hall.

Recognised hostels are at present two in number—Morrison Hall, situated immediately above the University grounds and conducted by the London Missionary Society, and St. John's Hall, immediately opposite the front of the University, conducted by the Church Missionary Society.

Each student occupies a separate room or cubicle, and there are the usual common rooms. Each University hostel is in charge of a member of the staff, as resident warden.

No University hostel at present exists for women students—whose right to admission to the University was first recognised in 1921: but some arrangements for the accommodation of a few women students in a rented building have been made by the authorities of St. Stephen's Girls' College, a Church of England girls' school which is near the University. The nuns of a neighbouring Italian convent are also prepared to house a few women students.

The tuition fee is $300—the hostel fee which includes board and lodging is $300. A student who is allowed to live in a hostel during a vacation—some have to because of their work, *e.g.* medical students, and others because their homes are too far away—pay at the rate of $8 a week. When a student joins he is required to deposit caution money to the extent of $25, and to pay a registration fee of $5. The annual subscription to the University Union is $15 and this covers the annual subscription to practically all the athletic

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clubs. The graduation fee is $25. Probably about $1,200 represents the minimum amount which at present prices would cover a student's annual expenses including vacations. It would cost a Chinese student who goes abroad $2,500 a year at the very least and this would not cover travelling expenses.

Numerous scholarships are available, including the King Edward VII Scholarships founded by His Majesty's Government. There are also scholarships provided by the Governments of Hong Kong, of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, of Kedah and Siam.

The Union is the centre of the social life of the students. It is at once a Club and a centre of athletics. The Union Committee contains certain members of the University teaching staff, but its President and Secretary are undergraduates elected by the undergraduates. The undergraduate members of the Committee are also elected by their fellow students. There is a Union magazine with English and Chinese sections. The editors are students, a member of the teaching staff acting as assistant editor. There are thirty-eight women students; these women students are all members of the Union.

Students of the University come from Kwangtung, Chihli, Hankow, Hupeh, Yunnan, Hunnan, Shanghai, Pekin, Fukien, Singapore, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Kedah, Jahore, Java, Manila, Burma, Siam, Japan, India and Macao. The present enrolment is 323 of whom 271 are Chinese and 52 non-Chinese.

X. Land and Surveys.

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

1. (1). The amount of premium received from Sales of Crown Land and Pier Rights exclusive of the New Territories during the year 1928 was $1,191,677.36 an increase of $1,084,043.73 on the preceding year, and $136,112.68 more than the average of the previous five years. The principal items were $120,237.50 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2135, $95,025 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2158, $92,325 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2111 and $71,275 for Kowloon Marine Lot No. 97.

(2). The amount of premium received from Sales of Crown Land and Pier Rights in the New Territories during the year under review was $437,750.54 being an increase of $405,009.29 on the preceding year, and $219,741.10 more than the average of the preceding five years. The principal item being $120,031.25 for New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1127.

(3). The foregoing increases indicate a gradual and welcome return to normal conditions.

2. The total area of land leased during the year was 462 acres 1 rood and 1-2/5 poles which is a slight increase on the preceding year.

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The total area resumed was 1,788 acres 3 roods and 5-4/5 poles.

3. In Hong Kong and Kowloon there was a growing demand for building sites whilst in the Northern District of the New Territories there was little demand for house sites in the development areas but in the villages construction of new houses goes on steadily and there was a fair demand for agricultural land.

There is little to report with regard to the Southern District of the New Territories beyond an increase in the demand for house sites at Hang Hau and Ngong Ping.

Surveys.

An Aerial Survey of the Colony was undertaken in 1924 and the groundwork necessary to enable new maps of the Colony to be published was completed in 1927.

The Geological Survey of the Colony was continued by Dr. Brock, Dean of the Faculty of Geology, University of British Columbia.

XI. Labour.

Most of the factories in the Colony have worked very much under their full capacity for the greater part of the year. This has resulted in a further decrease in the number of young children employed. The knitting factories in Kowloon and the cigarette factories in Hong Kong formerly employed large numbers of young girls of 12-15 years of age. With trade in an almost stagnant condition no new learners were taken on and those children already employed have outgrown the age of registration. The total number of children now working in factories is 100. These are employed in knitting factories. No European firms in the Colony employ children under the age of 15 years.

During the year investigations were made into the conditions prevailing in the white lead and vermilion factories with a view to ascertaining to what extent the workers in these trades—most of whom are women—suffer from mercurial or other poisoning contracted during the course of their employment; and to consider what measures can best be taken to minimise the risk from such industrial diseases.

No strikes or other disputes of importance occurred during the year though there were several minor incidents.

In January there was a short-lived strike at the Fung Keung Rubber Factory at Shaukiwan which followed the refusal of the owners to grant certain demands, for more wages, shorter hours, etc., which were suddenly presented to them by the workers. Later on definite evidence was discovered in a Communist den in Percival Street that the whole affair had been deliberately organised by two women Communists.

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In March there was a strike of four or five days duration at the Sincere Perfumery Factory at Kennedy Town, arising from the stricter enforcement of the searching of employees on leaving the premises and a proposal by the management to raise the amount of security deposited by each employee to two dollars. This proposal was dropped and the strike settled itself.

In August the Kowloon Docks became the centre of a violent agitation against the system of engagement through foremen with its alleged "squeezing" of the workmen. The source of the agitation was traced to the Sing Ngai Kwan Workmen's Club. Communist organisations also have been quick to seize on this grievance as an occasion for propaganda and references to it occur frequently in pamphlets distributed from time to time among the Dockyard workers.

A note-worthy event was the proscription of the Hong Kong Teahouse Employees' Union, an organisation which had for long been notorious for the violence of its methods, the questionable sources of its income and the rascality of its members. The Motorcar Drivers' and Tailors' Unions, which closed down after the 1925 Strike, were revived this year.

XII. Legislation.

Twenty Ordinances were passed during 1928. The most important were the following.

The Secretary for Chinese Affairs Incorporation Ordinance, No. 3, makes the person for the time being performing the duties of that office a corporation sole. A large number of leasehold properties in the Colony were formerly held by various substantive or acting holders of that office, some of whom have now retired. The inconvenience of this was obvious. This Ordinance vests all those properties in the new corporation, which will also have power to hold future property assigned to it. Some of the properties so assigned are District Watchman Stations, others are Chinese Public Dispensaries, others are temples or temple properties, others are schools, and others are miscellaneous trust properties. All are held on trust. One lot has been vested in the new corporation which did not stand in the name of any holder of the office. That was the site of a temple at Shaukiwan. The Crown lease in that case, which was for 999 years, was in the name of Lam Ah Neung. An attempt was made to find Lam Ah Neung but it was unsuccessful, and it was eventually discovered that there was no such person and that the name only represented the goddess of the temple.

The Chinese Temples Ordinance, No. 7, was a very novel piece of legislation. It was a private bill introduced by the two Chinese members of the Legislative Council, and it was put forward on the strong recommendation and urgent request of the leaders of the

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Chinese community. It had the full support of the Government. It does not interfere in any way with genuine Chinese religion. The objects of the legislation are three-fold:—

(*a*) It endeavours to prevent the exploitation of the ignorant by pseudo-religious and fraudulent charlatans who have greatly increased in number in recent years.

(*b*) It recovers for the benefit of the community the control over the funds of public temples which had been slipping into private hands.

(*c*) It prevents for the future the establishment of temples by private individuals as purely business speculations.

There are certain private temples, originally established by private individuals or particular families, which are managed honestly and unobjectionably, though of course the profits go to the private owners. All the known temples of this kind were included in a Schedule of exempted temples. One of them was the Tin Hau Temple, which was established 180 years ago by the Tai family. The main operative provisions of the Ordinance are as follows:—

(*a*) All Chinese temples have to be registered, and on registration, particulars have to be given of the funds of the temple and the application of its revenues.

(*b*) The properties and revenues of all Chinese temples, except those of the exempted temples, are placed under the control of a very strong Chinese committee, known as the Chinese Temples Committee, presided over by the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

(*c*) To make this control effective, provision is made for vesting temples and temple properties, if necessary, in the new corporation sole created by Ordinance No. 3 of 1928, which has been referred to above.

(*d*) The revenues of all Chinese temples, except the exempted temples, are to be applied in the first instance to the maintenance of the temple properties and the due observance of the customary ceremonies, and any surplus may be transferred to a fund established by this Ordinance and known as the General Chinese Charities Fund, which may be applied to the purposes of any Chinese charity in the Colony. The fund is under the control of the Chinese Temples Committee.

Control of this kind and with these objects had been tried already and tried successfully, though not with the same machinery. One instance was that of the Man Mo Temple which was regulated by

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Ordinance No. 10 of 1908. That temple has also been exempted from the operation of the present Ordinance. Another example was that of the Hau Wong Temple near Kowloon City. Ten years control of that temple resulted in a surplus sufficient to justify the use of it in building a new out-patient hospital in Kowloon City in connection with the Chinese Public Dispensary. This use of the surplus was suggested by the representatives of the inhabitants of Kowloon City, and it is no doubt an illustration of the kind of policy which will be followed under the Ordinance. The definition of the term "Chinese temple" naturally gave rise to considerable difficulty. The definition which was ultimately adopted is unusual in that it is based mainly on certain Chinese words which are not defined, *e.g.*, the word "Tsz", which means a Buddhist Monastery. It is doubtful if these Chinese words could be defined within reasonable limits, but it is not anticipated that any great difficulty will arise in the practical application of the term.

The Carriage of Goods by Sea Ordinance, No. 17, gives effect, as regards outward bills of lading from Hong Kong, to the proposals of the draft Convention on bills of lading agreed to at the meetings of the International Maritime Conference held at Brussels in October, 1922. The Ordinance is practically a copy of the English Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1924.

The United Kingdom Designs (Protection) Ordinance, No. 18, gives to the registered proprietors of designs registered in the United Kingdom under the Patents and Designs Acts 1907 and 1919, the like privileges and rights in Hong Kong as though the certificates of registration in the United Kingdom had been issued with an extension to the Colony.

XIII. Miscellaneous.

Emigration and Immigration.

Two hundred and fifty seven thousand one hundred and sixty two (257,162) Emigrants left Hong Kong for various places during the year 1928 of these 125,338 were carried in British ships and 131,824 in Foreign vessels.

One hundred and eighty seven thousand eight hundred and forty seven (187,847) returning emigrants were reported to have been brought to Hong Kong from the several places to which they had emigrated either from this Colony or from Coast ports as against 181,100 in 1927. Of these 103,127 were brought in British vessels and 84,720 in Foreign vessels.

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Statement of number of emigrants to Straits Settlements 1916-1927 as compared with total number of emigrants from Hong Kong.

	To Straits Settlements.	Total No. of Emigrants.
1916	82,797	117,653
1917	63,292	96,298
1918	8,019	43,830
1919	11,638	59,969
1920	43,935	105,258
1921	87,324	156,011
1922	50,356	98,393
1923	65,584	120,224
1924	75,682	129,859
1925	97,552	140,534
1926	157,285	216,527
1927	202,408	285,593
1928	169,741	257,162

Institutions.

Among institutions recognised and encouraged, but not to any considerable extent supported by Government may be mentioned the Pó Leung Kuk, the Eyre Refuge, the City Hall, and the Chinese Public Dispensaries.

The Po Leung Kuk Society was founded in 1878 to aid in the detection and suppression of kidnapping, especially of girls and women, and to shelter such girls or women as had been kidnapped in the interior and brought to Hong Kong for sale or emigration. Its name means "institution for the protection of good women". The initiative in its formation came from the Chinese themselves, and ever since by subscription and personal service, they have continued to support it.

There is a paid Chinese staff-matron, amahs and nurses, and two clerks who are secretaries to the managing committee. This Committee meets every evening from Monday to Friday at 7 p.m. the principal meeting of the week being held at 12 noon on Sunday. It not only manages the Po Leung Kuk, but acts as an advisory committee to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, in all cases affecting women and children, and Chinese family life generally, which are often extremely difficult and tedious. It corresponds when necessary with charitable institutions and private persons in various parts of China, traces parents of lost children or ill-treated muitsai, and shelters for the night any Chinese woman or girl who chooses to go. When parents or relations cannot be traced, the Committee arranges for the girls in its care to be given in marriage (never as concubines) or in adoption, always under bond and always with the consent of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs; and in every case that officer ascertains the girl's willingness before giving consent to either adoption or marriage.

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In addition to the annual Committee appointed by co-option there is a Permanent Committee, which serves to maintain continuity of policy, and of which the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is the ex-officio chairman.

The number of inmates of the Po Leung Kuk on 1st January, 1928, was 61 and during the year 622 persons were admitted as against 502 in 1927.

The Chinese Public Dispensaries are institutions maintained in order to provide the Chinese with the services of doctors, whose certificates will be accepted by the Registrar of Deaths, and with the services of interpreters, who can assist the inmates of houses, where a case of infectious disease has occurred. Coolies are engaged and ambulances and dead vans provided in order to remove cases of infectious disease to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and dead bodies to the Mortuary. The Dispensaries receive sick infants and send them to one or other of the Convents and arrange for the burial of dead infants. Free advice and medicine are given and patients are attended at their houses. There are eight Dispensaries in existence. The Government makes an annual grant of $2,000, and the rest of the cost is defrayed by voluntary subscription. The Dispensaries are conducted by committees under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

The Tung Wa Hospital, opened in 1872, is mainly supported by the voluntary subscriptions of Chinese, but receives an annual grant of $8,000 from the Government. Only Chinese are treated in this institution. Various other services not appertaining to a hospital are performed by the institution, such as the free burial of the poor, the repatriation of destitutes, the maintenance of free vernacular schools, and the organisation of charitable relief in emergencies: Chinese as well as European methods of treatment are employed in accordance with the wishes expressed by the patients or their friends.

Over half the number are now treated by Western methods. The hospital is managed by a committee of Chinese gentlemen annually elected, their appointment being submitted to the Governor for confirmation.

The foundation stone of the Eastern Branch of the Tung Wa Hospital at Sookunpo was laid by His Excellency the Governor on 4th May, 1928, and at the end of the year the building was nearly completed. Funds in hand, which have been raised by subscription, amounted to over $380,000, though a very large further amount will be required.

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(30th June, 1927,—18th June, 1928,
and
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BRITISH ADVISER, TRENGGANU

FOR THE YEARS

A. H. 1346 AND 1347

(30TH JUNE, 1927 TO 18TH JUNE, 1928

AND

19TH JUNE, 1928 TO 7TH JUNE, 1929)

BY

A. J. STURROCK

British Adviser, Trengganu

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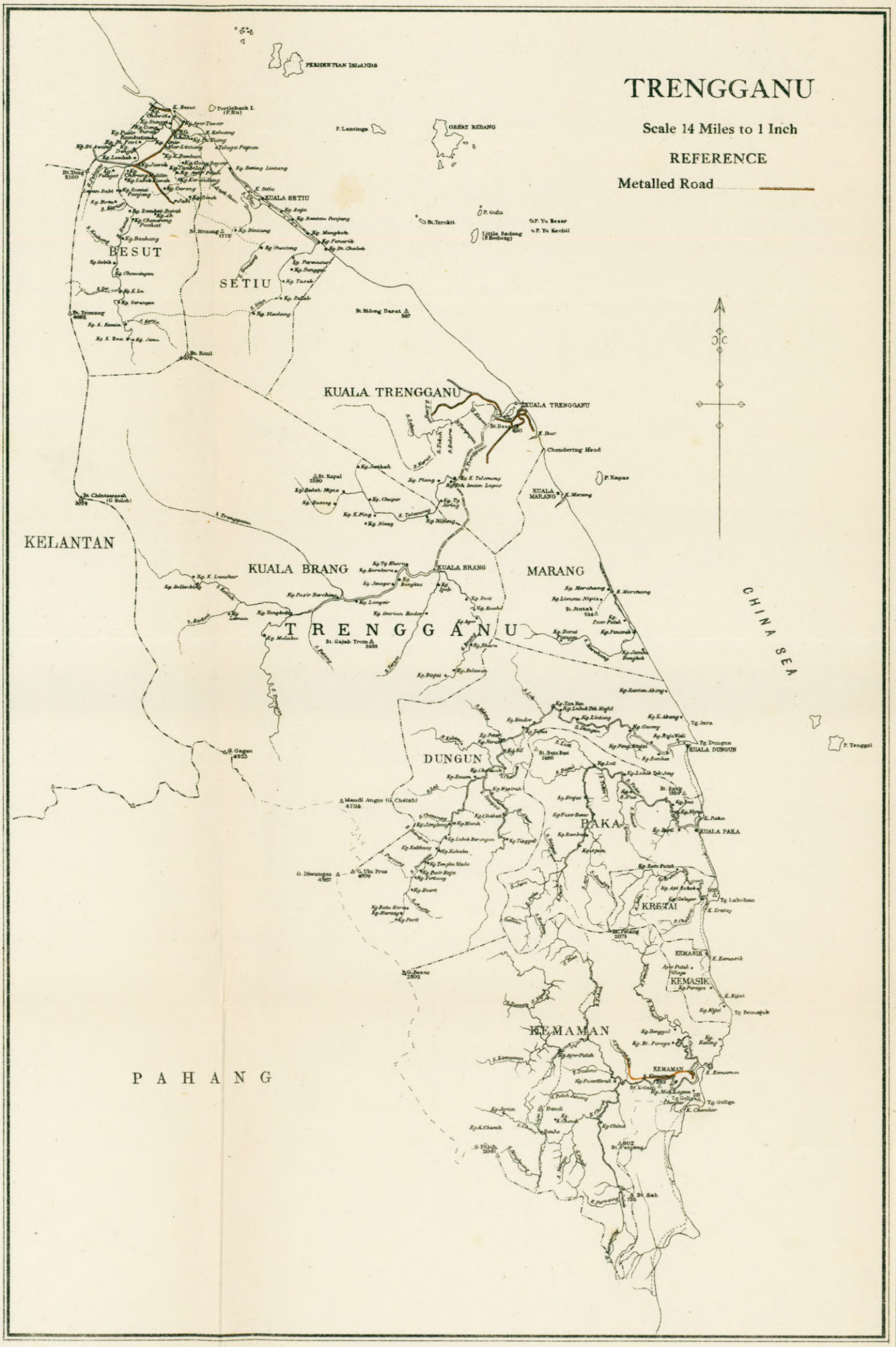

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PREFATORY NOTE

The compilation of this report has been considerably complicated by the adoption of the Muhammadan year as the period to be discussed. That being so it will be necessary to give the returns of Revenue and Expenditure for each of the years 1346 and 1347. As the compiler of this report was not in Trengganu for any part of 1346, the narrative part of the report relating to that year will perforce be very short.

A.—GEOGRAPHICAL

Trengganu is a Malay State on the East Coast of the Malay Peninsula lying between the parallels of 4° and 5° 55″ North latitude and the meridians of 102° 20″ and 103° 30″ East longitude. It is bounded by Kelantan on the North and North-west, by Pahang on the South and South-west, and by the China Sea on the East. Its inland boundaries follow the watersheds of its biggest rivers—the Besut, Trengganu, Dungun, and Kemaman. The area of the State is now computed to be about 5,000 square miles. The length of the State is about 150 miles and its greatest breadth about 55 miles. The Western and inland half of Trengganu is mountainous and almost uninhabited. The population is concentrated on the rivers and along the cost-line. The highest peak is Gunong Batil (4,985 feet).

2. *Rivers.*—The country is divided into sixteen river basins, all flowing into the China Sea. The Trengganu and Kemaman rivers can be entered at favourable stages of the tide by the coasting steamers. The other rivers are passable to small craft only, on account of the bar, though some of them are considerable streams.

3. *Islands.*—The Perhentian, Redang, Kapas and Tenggul Islands belong to the State. Perhentian and Redang offer good harbourage in all weather, and Kapas very safe anchorage in the North-east monsoon.

4. *Minerals.*—Trengganu is possibly rich in minerals, though its wealth has not been definitely established in respect of tin. The latter seems to be almost entirely confined to the Southern half of the State. Wolfram, Graphite, hæmatite magnetite and monazite have also been found.

B.—HISTORICAL

The early history of Trengganu is obscure. A Chinese Buddhist monk and traveller, CHAO JU KUA, mentions it among places subject to the old Kingdom of Palembang. The "Nagarakretagama" speaks both of Trengganu and Dungun as tributary to Majapahit. The "Hikayat Hang Tua" tells how HANG JEBAT and HANG KASTURI slew a Trengganu prince, MEGAT PANJI ALAM, on the steps of the palace of the Ruler of Pahang.

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In 1923 a remarkable Malay inscription, dated 702 A. H. (1303 A. D.) was deciphered in Trengganu. The stone bearing it was found at Kuala Brang, a place 20 miles upstream from Kuala Trengganu. The language of the inscription is Malay with an admixture of Sanskrit and Arabic, and the script is Arabic, a combination of which there is no parallel before the year 1468 A. D. The subject of the inscription is the Islamic law of sexual offences. It is far the earliest known record of Islam as a State religion in the Malay Peninsula, and it suggests the existence of a Muhammadan Kingdom in the upper Trengganu river a hundred years before the recorded date of the Islamic conversion of Malacca.

Recent History.—The Ruling House is descended from the BENDAHARA ABDUL HAMID of Johore, father of the non-royal BENDAHARA ABDUL JALIL, who became Sultan ABDUL JALIL SHAH of Johore in 1701. The present Ruler, Sultan SULAIMAN BADARU'L-ALAM SHAH, K.C.M.G., is twelfth of the line. Pressure from the Siamese was felt early in the 18th century, and Sultan MANSUR (1730-1792) began to send an annual tribute of Bunga Mas to the King of Siam. Later this was sent triennially, till in 1909 by treaty, Siam transferred her suzerainty to Great Britain. A British Agent with Consular powers was appointed. The treaty was amended in 1919, and the Agent was replaced by a British Adviser, whose advice must be asked and acted upon on all matters affecting the general administration of the country and all questions other than those touching the Muhammadan religion.

C.—CLIMATE

The North-east Monsoon, lasting from November to March, makes a distinct meteorological change in respect of temperature, wind and rainfall. The rainfall chart shows a sharp rise in November and an abrupt fall early in the next year. The highest recorded annual rainfall on the coast is 165.5 inches: the average is about 120 inches.

The heat is tempered in the coastal regions by the land and sea breezes, and the climate is pleasant and healthy:

D.—POPULATION

The population at the 1921 Census was 153,765, 77,115 males and 76,650 females. The division by race was:—Malays 145,523, Chinese 7,246, Indians 211, Europeans 34, and other nationalities 751. The chief division by industries was as follows:—fishing 9,350, agriculture 48,344, mining 531, wood-working 661, manufacture of textiles 9,334.

I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to my predecessors for these prefatory notes, which have been adopted from previous annual reports.

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Report on the State of Trengganu for the years 1346 and 1347 A.H.

I.—Financial

A.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The revenue collected for 1346 amounted to $1,402,151 against an estimate of $1,460,125. Revenue for 1347 was $1,361,026 against an estimate of $1,517,730. The figures for the expenditure in these years were for 1346 $1,542,404 against an estimate of $1,677,488 and for 1347 $1,520,149 against an estimate of $1,607,269.

The figures for the last five years are as follows:—

Year	*Revenue*	*Expenditure*
	$	$
1342 ...	779,032	766,534
1343 ...	1,007,282	899,475
1344 ...	1,302,008	1,067,878
1345 ...	1,364,105	1,341,410
1346 ...	1,402,150	1,542,404
1347 ...	1,361,025	1,520,149

As will be seen 1347 is the first set-back since the revenue started to go ahead in 1342. It was a bad year owing to the fall in tin and rubber. Customs, and Chandu and liquors both decreased greatly, and generally trade was bad.

REVENUE

Heading	Actual 1345	Actual 1346	Estimated 1346	Actual 1347	Estimated 1347
	$	$	$	$	$
1. Farms ...	56,463	16,899	17,270	16,673	16,300
2. Marine ...	23,399	23,861	23,935	23,424	26,400
3. Chandu and Liquors	345,617	354,642	309,550	307,646	352,000
4. Customs ...	702,803	775,363	699,775	712,735	814,200
5. Land ...	92,387	90,463	254,660	155,271	166,960
6. Municipal ...	29,576	37,753	33,365	38,335	35,560
7. Police ...	15,769	16,030	14,200	16,531	16,720
8. Courts ...	33,343	30,126	31,565	24,679	31,160
9. Posts and Telegraphs	21,664	25,949	22,800	28,774	26,250
10. Miscellaneous ...	31,188	27,479	30,355	31,920	27,030
11. Land Sales ...	11,896	3,586	22,650	5,042	5,100
Total ...	1,364,105	1,402,151	1,460,125	1,361,026	1,517,730

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There is a considerable reduction for the years 1346 and 1347 under the heading Farms, due to the abolition of gaming farms.

Loan Account.—The expenditure on Loan Account during 1346 was $310,954 and during 1347 $282,132.

Details of expenditure during 1346 and 1347 are given below:—

	1346	1347
	$	$
Special Public Works:—		
Personal Emoluments ...	41,745	46,578
Roads and Bridges ...	252,589	235,534
Telephone	121	—
Surveys	499	—
Resumption of Concessions ...	16,000	—
Total ...	$310,954	$282,132

Of the first and second Straits Loans, each of which was for $1,000,000 there remained at the beginning of 1346 $9,547 of the first and $440,857 of the second Loan. During 1346 and 1347 these sums were spent, with the exception of $35,122 reserved for special services. In addition expenditure to the amount of $142,698 was incurred against the third Straits Settlements Loan of $1,500,000.

II.—Police and Crime

Mr. L. L. Mills took over charge of the Contingent on 26th September, 1927, corresponding to 30th Rabi'l-awal, 1346, and continued in charge throughout 1346 and 1347. Tengku Mohamed officiated as Assistant Commissioner of Police during the whole of the period 1346 and 1347.

The approved establishment on 1st Muharram, 1346, was 285 which was later increased to 311 at which it stood on 1st Muharram, 1347. The number of men enrolled in 1346 was 64, while in 1347 only 56 men were enrolled. A higher physical standard was however set, as rates of pay had been increased.

Discipline.—The number of offences recorded as having been committed by the rank and file was 368 in 1347 as compared with 464 in 1346. All but one of the offences in 1347 were purely disciplinary and were dealt with by the Commissioner. 15 men were dismissed in 1346 and 15 in 1347.

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Training.—With the approval of the establishment of a reserve of 28 Non-Commissioned Officers and men at the depot it has been possible to extend the training of acting Non-Commissioned Officers and backward constables by frequent transfer between Districts and the Depot. Many acting Non-Commissioned Officers have been put through a course of three months training at the Depot, having to pass in drill and qualify in musketry, both rifle and revolver. Lectures on Law, Police Duties, Drill, and Musketry were given daily, and the illiterate had to attend school.

At the close of 1346 there were 25 Police Stations, of which two were closed during 1347. The remaining Stations are classified as—

5 District Headquarter Stations
4 Sub-District Stations
11 Minor Stations
3 Posts.

Revenue and Expenditure.—The revenue collected by the Police during 1346 was $16,030 and in 1347 $16,415. The revenue consists mostly of fees for licensing of motor vehicles and for slaughtering passes. One hundred and ninety two motor vehicles were licensed in 1347 as compared with 151 in 1346.

Crime.—The total number of reports was 5,457 in 1346 and 5,655 in 1347. Seizable offences reported were 2,342 in 1346, and 2,526 in 1347.

A statement of the serious offences reported is given below:—

	Offences	*1347*	*1346*	*1345*	*1344*
1.	Murder	7	4	5	6
2.	Gang Robbery ...	—	1	—	2
3.	Robbery	9	5	3	20
4.	Housebreaking ...	58	32	49	47
5.	Voluntarily causing grievous hurt ...	4	8	28	43
6.	Thefts (over $100) ...	52	66	54	63
7.	Thefts of cattle ...	50	40	42	41
8.	Counterfeit ...	—	2	4	4
9.	Counterfeit Notes ...	1	11	15	33
10.	Mischief by Fire ...	10	6	21	61
	Total ...	191	175	221	320

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These figures show that the reduction in crime, especially serious crime, is being maintained. Theft still figures high in the record. Of the 9 cases of robbery recorded in 1347, only two were serious.

Towards the end of the year 1347 a series of cases of Criminal Breach of Trust and Forgery were discovered in the Kuala Trengganu Post Office perpetrated by the Malay Registration Clerk, who was eventually sentenced to 12 months rigorous imprisonment.

As before close liaison was maintained with the Criminal Registry. The systematic photography of bad characters continued and in the two years under review 408 persons were added to the records.

III.—Legislation

In 1346 The Kedah Penal Code was adopted for the use of the Criminal Courts of Trengganu. Ishtihar 2/1346 relates to the suppression of Public Gaming. Ishtihar 38/1346 establishes Special Courts at Kemaman and Besut with increased powers.

In 1347 no Criminal Enactments were passed, but drafts of the Suppression of Public Gaming and the Seditious Publications Enactments were under consideration of Government at the end of the year.

In the administration of justice Muhammadan Law is followed. There is still no codified law of evidence or procedure. The Special Courts at Kemaman and Besut have similar powers to those of the Supreme Court. All cases between foreigners come before the Special Court, and with special sanction of Government, it is empowered to hear other cases which would otherwise be heard by the Supreme Court. This relieves litigants of the necessity of coming to Kuala Trengganu, or the Supreme Court in the alternative of having to visit the Jajahan.

The Land Courts perform similar functions in respect of land matters which cannot be determined by the Commissioner of Lands or the Collectors. In the Districts the personnel of the Land Courts was at first identical with that of the Special Courts. Now it includes the State Commissioner sitting with the Commissioner of Lands. In Kuala Trengganu it consists of the Judge of the Supreme Court sitting with the Commissioner of Lands.

Judicial statistics for the State are given in Appendix (*B*).

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IV.—Public Works

For the year 1346 the provision and expenditure on Public Works was:—

		Provision	*Spent*
		$	$
Revenue Account	...	744,702	375,259
Loan Account	...	447,059	294,454
		1,191,761	669,713

Much of the proposed programme of works had to be revised early in the year, and expenditure had to be cut down considerably to meet the reduction in revenue. Surveys and levels for the road from Kuala Trengganu to Kelantan were completed and construction was begun over three sections aggregating 21½ miles.

For the year 1347 provision and expenditure were:—

		Provision	*Spent*
		$	$
Revenue Account	...	312,468	238,799
Loan Account	...	419,466	282,168
		731,934	520,967

The strictest economy had to be observed during the year. Work on the road proceeded very slowly with local Malays, until construction got beyond the kampong areas, when even that labour supply stopped. By the close of the year, however, there was a plentiful supply of Chinese labour, and work proceeded quickly. Earthwork, birdges and culverts have been completed on the following sections:—

Kuala Trengganu District		10½ miles as earthroad
Besut District	...	16½ miles as earthroad
Kemaman District	...	8½ miles (5 metalled)

Under construction on 1 Muharram 1348 were—

Kuala Trengganu District		9½ miles
Kampong Buloh	...	8½ miles
Besut District	...	5½ miles
Kemaman—Ayer Puteh	...	6½ miles.

Relief work was started in 1347 on the Kuala Brang to Bukit Payong road, and about 4 miles of earthwork completed.

Thirty-six new buildings were completed during 1346, and 27 during 1347. The Public Works Department School which had been closed temporarily was reopened in 1347, and

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is now apparently very successful and popular. The electric light plants at the Astana Maziah and the Hospital, and the ice-plant continued to be successfully run.

It is to be noted that at the close of 1346 there were 235 Government buildings valued at $938,773 on whose maintenance only $8,605 was spent. In 1347 the figures were $11,278 on buildings valued at $1,105,491. Further the roads were almost entirely unmetalled, so that both on roads and buildings we may anticipate that larger expenditure for maintenance will be urgently necessary.

V.—Lands and Surveys

Lands and Mines.—As regards land work there was in 1347 effected the preliminary settlement of 24,575 lots, as against 32,987 lots in 1346 (making a total hitherto of 57,562 lots). The drop was due to the virtual completion of the settlement in 5 out of 9 districts early in 1347. Temporary titles were prepared and issued.

In the way of final settlement 6,599 lots were examined in 1346 and 13,674 in 1347. These figures include the re-examination of formerly badly settled areas, fresh settlement, and the identification and survey of land formerly alienated. Over 2,000 of the lots included in the above totals were surveyed by the Settlement Officers examining them and the majority of these surveys have been plotted up and put on sheets in the Survey Office. (The rectification of boundaries by Settlement Officers in the course of examining areas formerly surveyed has not been included in the figure 2,000).

A topographical survey of the Besut plain has been completed.

Land rents have risen in Besut from $6,100 in 1345 to $21,900 in 1347, in Kuala Trengganu from $2,900 in 1345 to $21,700 in 1347. In the districts work is going on with steadiness if with no great speed. A large increase of staff would be required to increase the speed.

In 1346 ninety four prospecting Licences were issued over areas totalling 148,397 acres with rights of selection of 33,360: in 1347 twenty-eight Prospecting Licenses over 56,330 acres with rights of selection of 11,150.

The drop was partly due to the continued low price of tin: but more important was the fact that 1346 was a record year for prospecting, companies and individuals with big financial backing reconnoitring the whole country for good dredging areas. None were found. It is now fairly certain that none but areas suitable for small types of dredge will be found, which it will only be economical to exploit when communications have improved and the majority of dredging areas on the other coast have been worked out.

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In 1346 4 mining Certificates were issued covering 1587 acres, in 1347 ten Mining Certificates over 538 acres.

Of the 1346 Mining Certificates one was for 1,085 acres for the purpose of mining iron ore. In 1347 one thousand three hundred and fifty acres were approved for mining iron ore, manganiferous iron ore and tin. A considerable increase in the output of iron ore is expected within the next year.

Survey.—During 1346 and 1347 the work of the Survey Department has been planned with the object of surveying and mapping the small holdings as quickly as possible, while preserving reasonable accuracy, in order to expedite the issue of titles, the compilation of rent-rolls for revenue purposes, and maps of alienation. Most of the survey work now being done consists of (a) Control traverses with theodolite, and (*b*) Demarcation of small holdings based on (*a*). Some 300 miles of control traverses were run in 1347, 10,800 lots aggregating 14,000 acres were demarcated and mapped, as against 5,962 lots (3,735 acres, in 1346. In addition 10 mining lots, 240 acres, were surveyed by theodolite, and town surveys of Paka, Kemasik, and Chukai were commenced.

VI.—Trade and Economics

The total value of the trade of the State for the year 1347 was $12,639,683 as against $13,387,438 in 1346 a decrease of $747,755. The excess of the value of exports over imports was $1,150,757.

Details are given in Appendix *A*.

The total value of imports was $5,744,463 as against $5,644,097.

Comparative figures for 1346 and 1347 are given below in respect of the more important articles imported from Singapore.

Articles	*1346*	*1347*
	$	$
Rice	723,444	639,993
Sugar	224,310	228,152
Tinned Milk	106,794	105,665
Tobacco, cigarettes and Cigars	353,240	402,049
Cotton Stuffs	187,989	162,756
Petroleum	133,552	124,768
Liquors	59,084	54,453
Motor Cars	52,096	36,205
Machinery	200,981	74,629

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The total value of exports was $6,895,220 as against $7,743,341. The principal exports from Trengganu to all countries were as follows:—

Articles	*1346*	*1347*
	$	$
Copra	311,862	581,979
Dried Fish	929,262	1,147,340
Tin-ore	2,355,207	1,741,687
Wolfram	24,621	33,212
Haematite	214,539	241,288
Manganese	219,158	289,154
Para Rubber	1,953,648	1,478,536
Gambier	69,126	43,836
Areca-nuts	288,998	249,910
Pure Silk Sarongs ...	225,812	72,876
Half-silk sarongs ...	73,896	27,037

VII.—Education

The policy of staffing Trengganu Malay Schools with teachers who have been sent to Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim, for training continues to be pursued. Eleven of the present teaching staff have received their training in this way.

Two new Malay schools were opened during 1347 raising the total for the State to 17. There were 20 teachers and 25 assistant teachers employed in 1346. In 1347 the numbers increased to 22 and 33 respectively.

The number of Government schools with figures showing the total enrolment and average attendance during the last three years are given below:—

—	No. of Schools	Average enrolment			Average attendance			Percentage of Attendance		
		1345	1346	1347	1345	1346	1347	1345	1346	1347
English School ...	1	35	37	45	27	30	35	77	81	84
Malay Schools...	17	1,556	1,417	1,597	1,115	996	1,210	72	70	76

Three students were maintained at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, six at Tanjong Malim and seven at King Edward VII School, Taiping.

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The special night school in Kuala Trengganu for Malays who have passed Standard IV and wish to enter Government service has been continued. So also has the English school at Kemaman for Government clerks. Both the numbers enrolled and the average attendance were disappointing.

The cost of the Education Department for the last three years exclusive of cost and maintenance of buildings was:—

1345	*1346*	*1347*
$26,591	$27,907	$30,113

CHINESE SCHOOL

The Chinese community in Kuala Trengganu maintain a school in which Mandarin Chinese and English are taught. During 1346 there were 101 boys and 25 girls on the roll while in 1347 the numbers were 108 and 28 respectively. The activities of the school in certain directions were somewhat circumscribed by shortage of funds. There is a similar institution in Kemaman.

VIII.—Public Health

There is one hospital in the State situated in Kuala Trengganu. The accommodation for patients has been considerably increased during the period under review there being at present 96 beds. An additional ward was under construction at the end of the year. In addition there are dispensaries in Kuala Trengganu, Kuala Brang, Besut, Dungun and Kemaman. Dressers in charge of these dispensaries tour their districts at intervals to treat the sick in their kampongs. The Gaol Hospital is under the supervision of the Chief Medical Officer.

HOSPITAL STATISTICS

The number of admissions to hospital was 1,243 in 1347 as compared with 1,011 in 1346. Statistics of the principal diseases from which hospital cases suffered are given below:—

	1346		*1347*	
	Cases	*Deaths*	*Cases*	*Deaths*
Yaws	196	Nil	174	Nil
Malaria	160	5	190	9
Bowel diseases ...	186	5	101	7
Beri-beri	50	1	61	5
Influenza	53	Nil	40	Nil
Veneral Diseases ...	111	Nil	121	Nil
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16	5	16	4

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One hundred and sixty-nine surgical operations including 32 major operations were performed as compared with 188 surgical operations including 26 major operations in 1346.

At the Gaol Hospital in Kuala Trengganu there were 78 admissions with 4 deaths as compared with 104 admissions and 1 death in 1346.

The total number of patients treated at all State Hospitals and Dispensaries was 35,258 as compared with 28,748 in 1346.

The prevailing diseases recorded in the State were:

	1346	*1347*
Yaws	2,544	3,679
Diseases of the digestive system	3,720	5,194
Diseases of the skin	5,018	6,991
Disease due to intestinal parasite	1,618	2,002
Fever unspecified	639	799
Malaria	2,553	2,901
Influenza	1,210	1,142
Diseases of the respiratory system	899	1,316
Beri-beri	1,033	1,472

MATERNITY WORK

Twenty-three normal labours were conducted in the hospital as compared with 18 in 1346. The new maternity ward has now been completed and will be of considerable service. A probationer Mid-wife proceeded to Singapore at the end of the year 1347 for six months' course at the Kandang Kerbau Maternity Hospital. On her return it is hoped that much more district maternity work will be undertaken.

CHILD WELFARE

A Child Welfare and Ante-natal Clinic was opened in Kuala Trengganu Town during the year, and has proved very popular with the Chinese community especially.

STAFF

Dr. N. H. HARRISON, Chief Medical Officer, remained in charge of the Department during the period under review.

IX.—Posts and Telegraphs

The volume of business transacted by the Post Offices during 1346 and 1347 showed a atisfactory increase over previous years in almost every branch of its activities—the improvement being most marked in the department dealing with letters, postcards and packets, the estimated number of which was 283,845 in 1346 and 364,075 in 1347.

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Figures for revenue and expenditure in the last four years are as follows:—

Years	*Revenue*	*Expenditure*
	$	$
1344	22,280	17,379
1345	21,663	22,366
1346	26,018	23,089
1347	28,799	26,771

The telegraph line from Kuala Trengganu to Kemaman and Pahang and the local telephone exchanges in Kuala Trengganu, Kemaman and Besut—the latter existing primarily for the convenience of Government Departments—continue to be maintained by the Public Works Department. A new telegraph office was opened at Dungun during the year 1347

X.—Prisons

The hope that a new State Prison would be built in Kuala Trengganu has unfortunately not yet been realised. The present site is unsuitable and the accommodation provided for prisoners is not good. Various improvements of a temporary nature have been made in the existing buildings but an entirely new building outside the town is required.

The records for admission and discharge of prisoners in 1346 and 1347 were—

1346

——	Entered	Released	Sentenced to death	Escaped	Died	In Goal end of 1346
Males	195	187	...	...	...	76
Females	20	20	...	...	1	2
Total ...	215	207	...	...	1	78

1347

——	Entered	Released	Sentenced to death	Escaped	Died	In Gaol end of 1347
Males	187	194	...	...	3	56
Females	6	4	...	...	...	2
Total ...	193	198	...	...	3	58

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Nine thousand one hundred and fifteen days of extra-mural labour were performed in 1346 and four thousand two hundred and forty-eight in 1347. Eight thousand five hundred and eighty two days of intra-mural labour were performed in 1346 and seven thousand eight hundred and twenty-six in 1347. The revenue derived from industries carried on inside the Gaol was $1,227.17 in 1346 and $1,681 in 1347. With the provision of a new prison it would be possible to occupy prisoners with work of a more diverse and profitable nature.

By arrangement with the Government of the Straits Settlements a number of long sentence prisoners have been admitted to the Singapore Gaol. These include two prisoners originally sentenced to death for murder, whose sentences were commuted by the State Council. They also include the prisoners convicted of complicity in the disturbances of Muharram 1347.

A gallows was erected inside the Gaol enclosure during 1347 but happily no use has so far been made of it.

XI.—The Hulu Disturbances

In Ramthan 1346 (March 1928) there were rumours of discontent in the Hulu of Trengganu, Nerus and Dungun rivers, ostensibly due to the collection of land fees and royalty on forest produce. An armed assembly was reported to have met in the Tersat. H. H. the Sultan with some of his ministers met a band of some 3,000 of the malcontents at Kuala Brang, and as result of the meeting a deputation appeared before him in Kuala Trengganu to expound their grievances. By this time it was obvious that the rayat were organised and directed by some higher authority, and the existence of a Sharikat-ul-Islam was known.

On 6th Zulhijah, 1346 (20th May, 1928) the District Officer Kuala Brang and the police (a sergeant and four men) considered it prudent to retire before a force of over 2,000 men, more or less armed; and a body of 25 Police was sent up-river. They met the rayat at Kuala Telemong and advised them to disperse. Repeated warnings were disgarded, and when a fresh advance was made the Police were ordered to fire one volley. There was no alternative if the advance was to be checked. Eleven men were killed, including To' Janggut, a notorious ringleader, who in spite of his vaunted invulnerability fell to a single bullet. Next day reinforcements arrived from the Federated Malay States and the rayat scattered to their homes.

Twelve of the ringleaders were arrested, tried by a Special Court, and sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment. The leader behind the movement, though he took no part

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in the disturbance personally, was a fanatic named HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN. He is at present in Mecca. The rayat were ignorant of the reason for their quarrel with Government and accepted blindly the counsel of their leaders.

They were, however, poor, lazy and even underfed, and as the speediest means of relief, work was found for them on the construction of a road from Kuala Brang to Kuala Trengganu. This was so successfully managed by the State Engineer and the District Officer that the number of local Malays of both sexes working on the road has been as high as 1,200; and when His Highness the Sultan visited Kuala Brang with the British Adviser there came to greet him a procession of over 800 of these labourers. This relief work has been successful both in its primary object, and it is hoped, in instilling the working habit into a people naturally inclined to indolence.

Land and Survey work has, as is proved above, progressed fast. Experimental planting has been started; and it is hoped to send a party of local Malays to Krian to see the next harvesting operations there.

As a result of the progress made, it appears that all signs of disaffection have died out, and all that is wanted now is an indication of genuine interest by the greater Malay chiefs in the welfare of the rayat. His Highness the Sultan has with the Adviser made a complete tour of the more accessible parts of his State and has been everywhere welcomed most enthusiastically by the rayat. He intends to make these tours annually and the result is bound to be mutually beneficial, and will engender confidence in the Government.

XII.—General

The State Council met regularly once a week for the transaction of ordinary business, and additional meetings took place when necessary. The Council consists of eighteen Malay members, under the chairmanship of the Mentri Besar, with the British Adviser as the only European member. The despatch of public business at these meetings must of necessity keep pace with the capacity of the weakest members of this large body, of which the individuals are not equally equipped in ability or inclination to master beforehand many of the issues which come up at a meeting for decision.

There exists in the minds of the older generation a distrust in the ability of the younger to take its place in the administration of the State; and the older members hang on because of the fallacious belief that no one is coming on to

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succeed them. The religious aspect influences them strongly, as they see in the younger generation a tendency to break away from old traditions and to associate itself with more modern and less rigid ideas and aspirations.

Early in 1347 His Highness the Sultan agreed to have a weekly informal meeting with the Mentri Besar and the British Adviser for the discussion of public business; and these meetings have taken place without interruption ever since. They are the origin of the systematic tour which His Highness has made of the districts; and in every way they have tended to quicken his interest in the affairs of his State.

In Zulhijah 1347 Tengku Ali, the eldest son of His Highness, and Tengku Mahmud the Sultan's brother sailed for England to complete their education. They are the first Trengganu native-born Malays to visit England. They have been put under the care of Mr. R. H. PINHORN, O.B.E., whose long service in the Malayan Education Department should ensure the success of the experiment. His Highness and the TENGKU AMPUAN went to Singaore to bid them farewell, with the British Adviser, the Mentri Besar and members of his suite. The boys were in charge of Dr. and Mrs. HARRISON.

In 1346 (Muharram) His Highness visited Singapore, and made a tour in Java. He projected a similar tour for 1347, but abandoned it on account of the departure of TENGKU ALI for England.

His Excellency the High Commissioner with Lady CLIFFORD visited Trengganu in Rabialawal 1347, accompanied by H. E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops.

Mr. J. W. SIMMONS was British Adviser till 23rd Rabi'l-akhir 1346 when he proceeded on leave. He was succeeded as from 4th Rejab 1346 by Mr. W. M. MILLINGTON. During the interval Mr. G. A. de C. de MOUBRAY acted in the post. On 19th Rabi'l-awal 1347 Mr. A. J. STURROCK succeeded Mr. MILLINGTON and was confirmed in the appointment as from 9th June 1928 (20th Zulhijah 1346).

It may without injustice be said that Trengganu is the most backward of the Malay States, but those who knew it some years ago say that it has progressed out of all knowledge. Progress has been most rapid in Besut and Kemaman, where the revenue has shown a consistent improvement each year—discounting the full in tin and rubber revenue. If the Japanese iron mines fulfil their promise, there should be a very large increase in revenue from Dungun and Kemaman in the near future. It is very doubtful whether the State can hope for a largely increased revenue from tin. Prospecting has so far given no warrant for optimism.

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The agricultural prospects of the State are good, but agriculture, especially in a backward State, must be guided by experience, and it will be necessary in the near future to get one or two Agricultural Officers to instruct the rayat, who are at present entirely ignorant in matters of soil, manure, and crop.

The forests of the State are especially rich in kapur and chengal. It will be advisable before exploiting the forests on any large scale to form the nucleus of a Forest Department under a qualified European Forest Officer.

Industries.—The weaving of sarongs in Trengganu continues to show a decrease. Many of the skilled weavers have left Trengganu and settled in Johore, which put them in a more favourable position for marketing their products. The quality of the Trengganu sarong has deteriorated, and the dyes used are far from permanent.

The manufacture of articles in white metal continues, but the output is inconsiderable.

Boat building is still an important industry, and the Trengganu boat-builders are justly renowned for the quality of their boats.

A. J. STURROCK,
British Adviser,
Trengganu.

TRENGGANU, *30th September*, 1929.
(*26th Rabi'l-akhir*, 1348).

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APPENDIX *A*

TOTAL IMPORTS INTO TRENGGANU, 1346

ARTICLES	How Stated	FROM SINGAPORE		FROM OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			$		$		$
A.—ANIMALS, FOOD, DRINKS AND TOBACCO							
Rice	Pikuls	106,161	723,444	133,010	1,147,657	239,171	1,871,101
Milk	Cases	9,152	106,794	...	...	9,152	106,794
Salt	Pikuls	1,480	3,739	51,087	23,387	52,567	27,126
Sugar	,,	29,398	224,310	...	...	29,398	224,310
Tobacco	Lbs.	131,880	104,560	9,944	5,196	141,824	109,756
Cigarettes and Cigars	,,	97,456	248,680	87	213	97,543	248,893
Other Articles	Value	...	582,777	...	24,641	...	607,418
Total Class *A* ...	...	...	1,994,304	...	1,201,094	...	3,195,398
B.—RAW MATERIALS							
Petroleum	Gallon	208,162	133,552	...	...	208,162	133,552
Other Articles	Value	...	125,459	...	11,262	...	136,721
Total Class *B* ...	...	...	259,011	...	11,262	...	270,273

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TOTAL IMPORTS INTO TRENGGANU, 1346—*Continued*

ARTICLES	How Stated	FROM SINGAPORE		FROM OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
C.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES			$		$		$
Dyed Cotton Goods	Yards	349,268	91,667	5,416	1,910	354,684	93,577
Thread	Lbs.	103,342	96,322	25	38	103,367	96,360
Sarongs	Number	206,833	213,855	7,063	8,207	213,896	222,062
Machinery	Value	...	200,981	...	7,174	...	208,155
Silk	Lbs.	42,987	180,435	...	...	42,987	180,435
Other Articles	Value	...	1,202,035	...	43,552	...	1,245,587
Total Class *C* ...	...	...	1,985,295	...	60,881	...	2,046,176
D.—PARCEL POST							
Total value of Parcel Post *D* ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128,233
E.—COIN AND BULLION							
Total Coin and Bullion ...	Value	...	4,017	...	...	...	4,017

SUMMARY

	$
Total Class *A*	3,195,398
„ „ *B*	270,273
„ „ *C*	2,046,176
„ „ *D*	128,233
„ „ *E*	4,017
Total Imports Trade	$5,644,097

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APPENDIX *A—Continued*

TOTAL EXPORTS FROM TRENGGANU, 1346

ARTICLES	How Stated	TO SINGAPORE		TO OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			$		$		$
***A.*—ANIMALS, FOOD, DRINKS AND TOBACCO**							
Rice	Pikuls	1,020	6,600	9,676	78,442	10,696	85,042
Dried fish	,,	75,040	905,305	2,281	23,957	77,321	929,262
Blachan	,,	203	2,435	735	9,307	938	11,742
Arecanuts	,,	743	18,743	10,992	270,255	11,735	288,998
Salt	,,	72	63	7,687	5,333	7,759	5,396
Sugar	,,	6	50	3,419	27,890	3,425	27,940
Other Articles	Value	...	297,772	...	66,977	...	364,749
Total Class *A* ...	...	...	1,230,968	...	482,161	...	1,713 129
***B.*—RAW MATERIALS**							
Tin-ore	Pikuls	27,066	2,355,207	...	..	27,066	2,355,207
Copra	,,	28,003	311,862	...	...	28,003	311,862
Para Rubber	,,	25,370	1,828.371	1,817	125,277	27,187	1,953,648
Rattans	,,	3,578	25.649	341	3,082	3,919	28,731
Gambier	,,	...	76	1,349	69,050	1,349	69,126
Other Articles	Value	...	150,990	...	459,714	...	610,664
Total Class *B* ...	...	...	4,672,115	...	657,123	...	5,329,238

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APPENDIX *A.—Continued*

TOTAL EXPORTS FROM TRENGGANU, 1346—*Continued*

ARTICLES	How Stated	TO SINGAPORE		TO OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			$		$		$
C.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES							
Silk Sarongs (pure)	Numbers	58,898	184,859	12,769	40,953	71,667	225,812
Half Silk Sarongs	,,	22,404	63,610	4,503	10,286	26,907	73,896
Cotton Goods	Yards	2,418	780	108,541	23,690	210,959	24,470
Other Articles	Value	...	184,081	...	145,009	...	329,090
Total Class *C* ...	...	...	433,330	...	219,938	...	653,268
D.—PARCEL POST							
Total value of Parcel Post *D*	Value	...	...	...	...	...	47,706
E.—COIN AND BULLION							
Total value of *E* ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

SUMMARY

	$
Total Class *A*	1,713,129
,, ,, *B*	5,329,238
,, ,, *C*	653,268
,, ,, *D*	47,706
,, ,, *E*	...
Total Export Trade	$7,743,341

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APPENDIX A—*Continued*

TOTAL IMPORTS INTO TRENGGANU, 1347

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			$		$		$
A.—ANIMALS, FOOD, DRINKS AND TOBACCO							
Rice	Pikuls	90,988	639,993	177,566	1,066,012	268,554	1,706,005
Milk	Cases	10,102	105,665	...	...	10,102	105,665
Salt	Pikuls	2,390	3,832	118,828	47,768	121,218	51,600
Sugar	,,	31,921	228,152	...	...	31,921	228,152
Tobacco	Lbs.	145,704	121,558	5,530	1,778	151,234	123,336
Cigarettes and Cigars	,,	100,693	280,490	74	235	100,767	280,726
Other Articles	Value	...	633,471	...	78,711	...	712,182
Total Class *A* ...	...	...	2,013,162	...	1,194,504	...	3,207,666
B.—RAW MATERIALS							
Petroleum	Gallons	230,550	124,768	10,000	5,000	240,550	129,768
Other Articles	Value	...	108,872	...	8,103	...	116,975
Total Class *B* ...	...	...	233,640	...	13,103	...	246,743

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TOTAL IMPORTS INTO TRENGGANU, 1347—*Continued*

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
C.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES			$		$		$
Dyed Cotton Goods	Yards	305,121	108,319	14,796	5,139	319,917	113,458
Thread	Lbs.	77,225	54,437	900	936	78,125	55,373
Sarongs	Number	231,995	230,507	5,863	6,577	237,858	237,084
Machinery	Value	...	74,629	...	29,663	...	104,292
Silk	Lbs.	8,448	45,503	...	...	8,448	45,503
Other Articles	Value	...	1,455,365	...	222,206	...	1,677,571
Total Class *C* ...	...	...	1,968,760	...	264,521	...	2,233,281
D.—PARCEL POST							
Total Value of Parcel Post *D* ...	Value	...	...	...	...	...	54,767
E.—COIN AND BULLION							
Total Class *E* ...	Value	...	2,006	...	...	...	2,006

SUMMARY

	$
Total Class *A*	3,207,666
Total Class *B*	246,743
Total Class *C*	2,233,281
Total Class *D*	54,767
Total Class *E*	2,006
Total Import Trade ...	$5,744,463

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APPENDIX *A—Continued*

TOTAL EXPORTS FROM TRENGGANU, 1347

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			$		$		$
***A.*—ANIMALS, FOOD, DRINKS AND TOBACCO**							
Rice	Pikuls	170	900	6,104	35,349	6,274	36,249
Dried Fish	,,	88,056	1,108,484	3,457	38,856	91,513	1,147,340
Blachan	,,	58	808	1 276	16,944	1,334	17,752
Arecanuts	,,	1,685	54,015	9,012	195,895	10,697	249,910
Salt	,,	...	...	21,363	14,296	21,363	14,296
Sugar	,,	184	1,333	6,439	42,271	6,623	43,604
Other Articles	Value	...	93,555	...	122,356	...	215,911
Total Class *A* ...	...	...	1,259,095	...	465,967	...	1,725,062
***B.*—RAW MATERIALS**							
Tin-ore	Pikuls	23,209	1,741,687	...	...	23,209	1,741,687
Copra	,,	50,814	581,979	...	...	50,814	581,979
Para Rubber	,,	34,968	1,390,580	2,302	87,956	37.270	1,478,536
Rattans	,,	1,478	10,475	200	1,568	1,678	12,043
Gambier	,,	11	469	1,079	43,367	1,090	43,836
Other Articles	Value	...	186,920	...	623,481	...	810,401
Total Class *B* ...	...	...	3,912,110	...	756,372	...	4,668,482

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TOTAL EXPORTS FROM TRENGGANU, 1347—*Continued*

ARTICLES	How Stated	SINGAPORE		OTHER COUNTRIES		TOTAL	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
***C.*—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES**			$		$		$
Silk Sarongs	Number	16,503	54,599	5,767	18,277	22,270	72,876
Half Silk Sarongs	,,	8,887	21,226	2,437	5,771	11,324	27,037
Cotton Goods	Yards	283	123	29,115	79,859	29,398	79,982
Other Articles	Value	...	156,772	...	123,771	...	280,543
Total Class *C* ...	...	...	232,760	...	227,678	...	460,438
***D.*—PARCEL POST**							
Total Value of *D* ...	Value	...	...	...	...	...	41,238
***E.*—COIN AND BULLION**							
Total Class *E* ...	Value	...	...	...	...	...	...

SUMMARY

	$
Total Class *A*	1,725,062
,, ,, *B*	4,668,482
,, ,, *C*	460,438
,, ,, *D*	41,238
,, ,, *E*	...
Total Export Trade	$6,895,220

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APPENDIX *B.*

STATEMENT OF WORK PERFORMED IN ALL COURTS DURING THE YEAR A. H. 1346

Courts	1345 cases undecided on 1-1-1346		No. of cases instituted		No. of cases disposed of		No. of cases pending at end of 1346	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
Appeal Court	12	2	25	10	32	9	5	3
Supreme Court—								
Original Jurisdiction	5	1	15	70	11	69	9	2
Appellate Jurisdiction	8	11	69	58	70	57	7	12
Special Court, Kemaman ...	1	...	26	13	20	12	7	1
Special Court, Besut	...	...	5	5	3	5	2	...
Magistrate Courts—								
Kuala Trengganu	28	65	246	1,010	253	1,040	21	35
Kemaman	2	12	183	283	185	279	3	4
Besut and Setiu	12	6	210	361	194	342	28	25
Kemasik	1	12	61	99	59	109	3	2
Kretai	15	43	6	125	21	139	...	29
Paka	1	1	30	75	26	72	5	4
Dungun	15	2	38	91	44	91	9	2
Marang	12	6	24	170	36	176	...	...
Hulu Trengganu	10	9	24	70	13	54	21	25
Kathi, Kuala Trengganu ...	10	4	103	75	109	77	4	2
Total ...	132	174	1,065	2,515	1,076	2,531	124	146

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APPENDIX *B—Continued*

STATEMENT OF WORK PERFORMED IN ALL COURTS DURING 1347 A. H.

Courts	1346 cases undecided on 1-1-1347		No. of cases instituted		No. of cases disposed of		No. of cases pending at end of 1347	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
Appeal Court	5	3	30	6	26	4	9	5
Supreme Court—								
Original Jurisdiction	9	2	9	39	15	36	3	5
Appellate Jurisdiction ...	7	12	76	31	63	37	20	6
Special Court, Kemaman ...	7	1	26	17	28	18	5	...
Special Court, Besut	2	...	6	5	8	4	...	1
Magistrate Courts—								
Kuala Trengganu	21	35	376	1,109	340	1,125	57	19
Kemaman	...	4	176	322	168	317	8	9
Besut and Setiu	28	25	212	376	207	351	33	50
Kemasik	3	2	31	81	32	82	2	1
Kretai	...	29	18	53	10	40	8	42
Paka	5	4	53	39	42	34	16	9
Dungun	9	2	31	69	38	69	2	2
Marang	...	...	25	113	24	111	1	2
Hulu Trengganu	21	25	15	56	4	31	32	50
Kathi, Kuala Trengganu	4	2	128	63	132	65	...	...
Total ...	121	146	1,212	2,379	1,137	2,324	196	201

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No. 1475.

ST. HELENA

REPORT FOR 1929.

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ST. HELENA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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SITUATION AND AREA.

The Colony of St. Helena consists of the Island of St. Helena with the Island of Ascension as a Dependency.

St. Helena.

St. Helena lies in latitude 15.55 South and longitude 5.42 West. It is about 950 miles due south of the Equator, 4,000 miles from England, and 1,700 miles from Cape Town. The voyage from England occupies from 14 to 17 days, and from Cape Town from five to six days.

The area of the island is 47 square miles. The population is about 3,800, of whom about 1,500 live in Jamestown, the port and only town in the island.

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St. Helena is of volcanic origin. The latest account of its geology is a report by Professor Daly of Harvard University, who visited the island at the end of 1921. This report appears in the *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences* Vol. 62 No. 2, March, 1927. Professor Daly is of the opinion that St. Helena dates from pre-Glacial time, and is probably pre-Pliocene.

The aspect of St. Helena from the sea is forbidding. It rises abruptly in bare cliffs, which vary in height from 400 to 2,000 ft. The face of this wall of rock is cut by deep narrow gorges.

Above the cliffs the ground rises in a fairly regular slope, but with numerous valleys, to a ridge lying across the middle of the island. This ridge is serrated in form ; its general altitude is about 2,000 feet, but two of its peaks, easily accessible and affording magnificent views, rise to 2,700 feet.

The island has been divided into three zones, " Coast," " Middle," and " Central."

The " Coast " zone extends from about a mile to a mile and a-half round the island. Except in some of the valleys, where fruit and vegetables may be grown, the only vegetation is prickly pear.

The " Middle " zone, at an altitude of 400 to 1,800 feet, succeeds the " Coast " zone. The hills and valleys and pleasing scenery in the higher levels of this area are suggestive of parts of Wales and Devon. Oaks, Scotch pines, gorse, and blackberries flourish there, and in 1926 at Plantation during a prolonged winter some primroses made their appearance.

The " Central " zone, about three miles long by two miles wide, is ground each side of the central ridge, the highest ground in the island. In some parts the ground is precipitous, in others undulating with grassy slopes.

Ascension.

Ascension Island lies in latitude 7.53 South and longitude 14.18 West, about 700 miles north-west of St. Helena. It has an area of 34 square miles. The population consists of European and St. Helenian employees of the Eastern Cable Company and of the St. Helena Development Company. On the 31st of December, 1929, the population numbered 220, of whom 145 were St. Helenians.

The island is of volcanic origin, and, as in the case of St. Helena, the most recent account of its geology is a report by Professor Daly which appeared in the *Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, Vol. 60, No. 1, June, 1925. Professor Daly observes that from the time of its discovery no sign of volcanic activity, not even a hot spring, has been reported though geologically the island is extremely young. He thinks it possible that the whole mass above sea-level has been erupted during post-Glacial time.

From the sea Ascension appears bleak and desolate. Green Mountain, however, 2,800 feet high, relieves with its vegetation the barren and depressing effect of the larger part of the island and affords pasture for about 600 sheep and cattle.

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HISTORY.

St. Helena.

There is an abundance of interesting historical and descriptive records concerning St. Helena. The archives of the Administration from 1678 are preserved at the Castle ; among them is the original of the instrument " The Laws and Constitution of the Island of St. Helena " issued by Charles II in 1681.

The island was discovered on 21st May, 1502, St. Helena's day, by Juan de Nova Castella, Commodore of a Portuguese squadron returning from India. The Portuguese made no attempt to make a colony of the island but were content to maintain it as a place of " refreshment " for their ships by planting fruit trees and vegetables and introducing goats, pigs, and wildfowl, including pheasants and partridges. It was the practice of the Portuguese to land on the island sick persons of a ship's company, " whom they suspect will not live till they get home ; these they leave to refresh themselves, and take away the year following, with the other fleet, if they live so long."

The discovery of the island is said to have been kept a secret until the Englishman, Captain Cavendish, returning from a voyage round the world, anchored there on 8th June, 1588. He found on the island a great abundance of fruit and vegetables, thousands of goats, a great store of swine and wild fowl (the pheasants " big and fat surpassing those which are in our country in bigness and numbers in a company "). He found also " divers handsome buildings and houses, one, particularly, was a church tiled, and whitened on the outside very fair." The only human inhabitants were three slaves and from them Captain Cavendish learnt the news that " the East Indian fleet all laden with spices and Callicut cloth, with store of treasure, and very rich stones and pearls, were gone but twenty days before we came hither."

St. Helena now became a place for " the English, Portugals, Spaniards, and Hollanders to refresh themselves in going, but, for the most part, in returning from the Indies, it being sufficient to furnish ships with provisions for their voyage, here being salt to preserve the meat from stinking ; and besides the air is so healthful that they often left their sick people there, who, in a short time, are restored to perfect health." " The greatest convenience of this island for ships " reported an English seaman " is the plenty and goodness of the water."

Eventually in 1645 the Dutch assumed possession of the island, but a few years later abandoned it to establish themselves at the Cape of Good Hope. Their place in St. Helena was taken by the English and in 1661 the Crown granted to the East India Company a charter for its administration.

According to some accounts the island was recaptured in 1665 by the Dutch, who were expelled the same year. They seized it again in 1672. The English Governor and his followers made their

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escape in English and French ships to Brazil. There they met an English squadron under the command of Captain (afterwards Sir Richard) Munden, who determined to recover possession of the island. He arrived off St. Helena on the evening of 14th May, 1673, and was fortunate in finding that no look-out was being kept. He landed a shore party at Prosperous Bay, as it came to be called in commemoration of the exploit. There the most active man of the party climbed up a precipice, taking with him a ball of twine to which was attached a rope by means of which the rest of the party were hauled up. The cliff thereafter became known as "Holdfast Tom," the urgent admonition of his comrades to the intrepid climber. As the ships appeared off Jamestown the landing party reached the heights above the town and the Dutch surrendered without striking a blow.

St. Helena reverted by conquest to the possession of the Crown. In December of 1673 a new charter was granted to the East India Company and, with the exception of the term of Napoleon's exile, the island continued under the Company's administration until 22nd April, 1834, when it was brought under the direct control of the Crown.

The Colony is now administered by a Governor aided by an Executive Council. The Governor alone makes ordinances, there being no legislative council, but power is reserved to legislate by Order of His Majesty in Council.

The East India Company, in the terms of their Charter of 1673, attached importance to the island as "very necessary and commodious for refreshing their servants and people in theire retournes homewards, being often then weak and decayed in their health by reason of their long voyages under their hott clymes." This service the island continued to render during the period of the Company's administration. It had no possibilities as a trading station, and it remained purely a rendezvous for the protection and refreshment of shipping. The Governorship was often a reward for good service in India, and other offices were filled from time to time by the Company's servants whose health had suffered in the East.

With the disappearance of the Company's administration went its lavish expenditure and its high scale of salaries. The economy of Crown administration and consideration for the British taxpayer ushered in more difficult and less prosperous times for the inhabitants. The substitution of steam for sail and the opening of the Suez Canal meant the ruin of St. Helena as a shipping port. A century ago the number of ships calling each year was five hundred; to-day the number is forty, and in this era of cold storage supplies are rarely needed. More recently the removal of the garrison, in 1906–07, appeared at the time a crushing blow to the island. But the departure of the troops was not an unmixed evil, for it threw the island for the first time on its own resources and led to the creation of the fibre industry on which to-day the welfare of the inhabitants

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has come greatly to depend. The future of St. Helena lies in its agriculture and in the character and technical training of its people; it is probable, also, that before long the scenery and the climatic advantages of the island may gain it a reputation as a resort for those who favour quietude and simple living.

St. Helena has become famous in history as the scene of the Emperor Napoleon's exile and death. The house occupied by him at Longwood and the site of the tomb in Sane Valley where his remains lay for twenty years till their removal in 1840 are now in the charge of the French Government, who were granted the freehold in 1858.

From its earliest days St. Helena appears to have been regarded as a place eminently suitable for exile or for the confinement of political prisoners.

The first exile to land on the island was Fernando Lopez in 1513. He was a Portuguese nobleman who had deserted his countrymen in India and turned apostate. Following on a Portuguese success near Goa he was surrendered to Albuquerque on condition that his life should be spared. His nose, his ears, his right hand, and the little finger of his left hand were cut off and he was thus placed on ship for Portugal. Rather than arrive in his country mutilated and disgraced he was at his own request left on shore at St. Helena with a few slaves. He remained on the island for four years, when on instructions from home he was removed to Portugal.

During the administration of the East India Company, St. Helena was selected for the confinement of an offending rajah who, however, did not survive the voyage. On two occasions Zulu rebels, amongst their number Dinizulu, Cetewayo's son, have been received on the island as political prisoners. During the South African War full advantage was taken of St. Helena's natural advantages as a place of internment. About 4,500 prisoners of war, among them General Kronje, were sent to the island. Their presence brought a wave of prosperity to the island, but apart from that happy circumstance the Boers soon gained and have retained the good will and respect of the inhabitants.

St. Helena had intimate associations with the suppression of the slave trade between West Africa and the Americas.

Slave ships captured by British warships were brought to the island for condemnation, and a settlement for freed slaves was founded at Rupert's Bay. A few found employment locally, but about 10,000 were conveyed to the West Indies and British Guiana.

From time to time St. Helena has had the good fortune to attract interesting and eminent visitors. In 1676 Halley, the astronomer, then a student at Oxford, arrived in the island to determine the positions of the fixed stars of the Southern Hemisphere, and left his name behind him in "Halley's Mount." His observations were to some extent, it is said, hampered by mist and cloud. The same fate about one hundred years later, in 1761, awaited the observations

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of Dr. Maskelyne and Mr. Waddington, who visited the island to watch the transit of Venus on 6th June.

Captain Cook landed in the island in 1771 and again in 1774. He wrote that "the children and descendents of the English in St. Helena are remarkable for their ruddy complexion and robust constitution." "As for the genius and temper of these people," he observed, "they seemed to be the most hospitable ever met with of English extraction, having scarce any tincture of avarice and ambition."

Darwin arrived in St. Helena on 8th July, 1836. St.Helena, he was of opinion, had existed as an island from a very remote epoch. He remarked on "the English, or rather Welsh, character of the scenery": "When we consider that the number of plants now found on the island is 746, and out of these 52 alone are indigenous species, the rest having been imported, we see the reason of the British character of the vegetation."

In August, 1910, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught called at the island, while on his way to open the first Parliament of the Union of South Africa, and in August, 1925, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales spent two days at St. Helena on his way from South Africa to South America.

There still remains on the island one survivor of the Napoleonic period, the giant tortoise at Plantation, said by some authorities to be the known oldest living inhabitant of the world. One report states that this tortoise and a companion who died in 1918 were brought to St. Helena during the Governorship of General Beatson, 1808–13, and that they originally belonged to the French Artillery at Port Louis, being handed over to the British with the ordnance and stores at the capitulation of Mauritius in 1810. Mellis, writing in 1875, mentions a report that the tortoises had lived at Plantation for a century or more. When he wrote they appeared to be fully grown, easily carrying a man.

Ascension.

Ascension Island was discovered by the Portuguese on 20th May, 1501. It was given its name by Albuquerque who came there two years later.

Vessels called at the island for the turtles. "The sailors never weary of eating them," wrote Roggewein in 1773, "believing that they make a perfect change of their juices, freeing them entirely from the scurvy and other diseases of the blood."

But there was a less savoury reputation attaching to the place. "As the island is a very miserable place to live in, it is common to leave malefactors here when they do not incline to put them to death."

Ascension remained unoccupied until the British took possession in 1815, at the time Napoleon was brought to St. Helena. A garrison was established on the island; "their tents," wrote La

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Trobe the following year, "are placed among heaps of volcanic matter resembling cinder heaps in the neighbourhood of London."

In 1821, marines formed the garrison. The spirit they brought with them appears in a private letter written from the island five years later. "We have everything in abundance and live like aldermen. The gardens which are about six miles off on the Green Mountain produce abundantly. The appearance of the island is certainly deplorable, a mass of black and brown lava; but it has its comforts which are every day increasing."

Ascension remained under Admiralty control until 12th September, 1922, when its administration was taken over by the Colonial Office and it was made a Dependency of St. Helena.

At the present time Ascension is an important cable station, and it is also the scene of the operations of the St. Helena Colony Development Company, who are interested in the phosphates and minerals on the island. The Mess of the Cable Company have imported a spirit of cheerfulness into the surroundings. Various forms of recreation—cricket, football, golf, tennis, hockey, and bathing—are available. Sea fishing is a popular pastime and there are possibilities of big game fishing.

An interesting feature of the island is Wide-awake Fair, described by Captain Simmonds in the July number of the *National Geographica Magazine*, 1927. "Here is a wonderful city of birds at Wide-awake Fair, on the western corner of the clinker plains. We of the 'Blossom' went to the Fair on numerous occasions during the breeding season and found the birds assembled by the millions on flattened areas between the ragged cones. The eggs were in such close formation on the ground that it was difficult to step without treading on one or more. Upon our approach the birds rose in deafening chorus and hung over our heads in a threatening blanket of wings and sharp bills that darkened the sun. As a curtain of birds swung down with terrible chattering and screeching, we also ducked and huddled in anticipation of an attack." When the young are fledged the birds vanish from the island till the next breeding season. The eggs are considered a delicacy and taste not unlike plovers' eggs.

The constitution of Ascension is the same as that of St. Helena. The Governor and Council of St. Helena have the same powers in relation to Ascension that they possess in relation to St. Helena.

The Superintendent of the Cable Company acts as Resident Magistrate and has a seat on the Council. Officials of the Company perform such administrative duties as may be necessary.

PEOPLE AND LANGUAGE.

With the exception of the English residents and the descendants of English families, settled in the island, the inhabitants are of varied descent. Their ancestors generations ago came from different

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parts of the world, but principally from Europe and Asia, and there is difficulty now in tracing any distinctive or prevailing racial element. They are of slight build and of pleasing appearance, they are very law-abiding and are generally praised for their civility and courtesy. In their ideas and sentiments they are essentially and intensely English—as English as is a great deal of the Island scenery.

The language spoken in St. Helena has always been English, and to-day it is remarkable for its purity.

CURRENCY.

By the St. Helena Coinage Order, 1925, all coins which under the Coinage Acts of 1870 and 1891 are legal tender in the United Kingdom, and all silver coins which under the Coinage Act, 1922, are legal tender in the Union of South Africa are legal tender in the island of St. Helena.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

By the Weights and Measures Ordinance, 1905, the weights and measures for the time being lawfully in use in the United Kingdom and no others are to be used in St. Helena.

CLIMATE.

Situated far from any land mass, in the heart of the South-East Trades, and surrounded by the cool waters of the South Atlantic current, St. Helena possesses a mild and equable climate.

There are four seasons in the year, which, however, are not so sharply differentiated as they are in England. Spring is from October to December, summer from January to March, autumn from April to June, winter from July to September.

The length of day varies from 13 hours on 21st December to 11 hours on 21st June.

The sun is vertical on 5th February and on 6th November.

The temperature in the " Coast " zone ranges in summer between 68 degrees and 84 degrees and in winter between 57 degrees and 70 degrees. In the country at about 2,000 feet it is 10 degrees cooler.

In Jamestown, during summer, the heat is sometimes apt to be oppressive. In the country, during winter, fires are often appreciated.

The atmosphere is humid ; the monthly mean at 9 a.m. in the country varies from 89 degrees in January to 92 degrees in September.

The average annual rainfall in Jamestown is about 9 inches and the average number of raindays in the year is about 90. In the country at Plantation, 1,650 feet, the annual average of rainfall over 17 years is 30·78 inches, and the average number of raindays 194. On

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two occasions during the last 15 years the greatest fall in 24 hours amounted to 2 inches; apart from those two occasions the greatest fall did not exceed 1½ inches.

At Plantation the driest months are October to January inclusive, when the average rainfall is under 2 inches each month; The wettest months are March, May, June, and July, when the average is 4 inches; the lowest record being 1.26 in March and the highest being 8.92 in July.

The average force of the wind, which blows almost every day in the year, is 14 miles per hour. On only one occasion in the last 30 years has the wind attained the velocity of 50 miles per hour.

Thunderstorms are of very rare occurrence, the last two recorded being in 1874 and 1888.

Earthquakes in the formidable sense are unknown. Only four "tremors" have been put on record in 400 years.

In the words of Mr. (now Sir Daniel) Morris, who in 1883 reported on the agricultural resources of the island, "St. Helena stands pre-eminent in possessing a remarkably fine and healthy climate. . . In respect to its climate I regard St. Helena as a most valuable station for recruiting health."

The island is completely free from any of the ills associated with tropical or sub-tropical countries. In particular the climate seems an excellent one for young children or elderly persons. It is also considered beneficial for tubercular or lung trouble.

It is generally held that after three or four years a change of environment is desirable.

No particular precautions are needed. The sun very rarely causes any inconvenience, though on occasions during the summer in rare and exceptional seasons of prolonged drought the direct solar heat may be intense. In the last 25 years there has been only one case of fatal result from the effect of sun.

1.—GENERAL.

In the past St. Helena was famous for its fruit, its coffee, and its vegetables. In the days of the East India Company the apples, mulberries, quinces, were said "to have come to perfection." Some St. Helena coffee shipped to England in 1845 fetched 1d. per lb. more than any other description, and a sample sent to the London Exhibition in 1851 obtained the first prize for quality. In more recent years consignments of potatoes were shipped to the Cape and a report on them in 1906 stated "there is no doubt the quality is excellent and they will command the best figure in the market." It was the opinion, moreover, of Sir Daniel Morris in

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1884 that by that date if Mr. Chalmers, who had been sent from Kew in 1869, had not soon after been retrenched, the cultivation of tobacco would have become an established industry.

The departure of Mr. Chalmers left the St. Helenians, in horticultural matters, pathetically helpless, and horticulture became derelict.

The appointment last year of an officer from Kew has raised some hope of revival of interest in horticulture and of increasing the number and establishing the position of small holders. The limited area of land, however, available for cultivation makes it unlikely that any export trade on a considerable scale is possible. The market for the local produce will be in the island itself, in Ascension, and in occasional supplies to ships.

It may be possible in the near future to arrange for a short visit to the Colony of a Forestry Officer. No systematic forestry has ever been attempted in St. Helena and no report has yet been made by a Forestry Officer. Apart from their influence on climate and soil, trees are needed in St. Helena for fuel and to provide timber for building, fencing, etc., and there is little doubt that a reafforestation scheme launched under expert advice can provide St. Helena with all the timber, including ant-resistant varieties, it will ordinarily require.

The possibility of obtaining a teacher in Domestic Science will be considered when funds become available. St. Helena girls when trained make good cooks and domestic servants. Opportunities for their employment offer in Ascension, in South Africa, and occasionally in England. There is little fear that if well trained there will be difficulty in finding them employment.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the year, including grant-in-aid of £2,000, amounted to £20,456, being £2,382 over the estimate and, £5,291 in excess of the revenue for the previous year.

The grant-in-aid of £2,000 for 1928 was not credited till 1929, and the annual minimum royalty of £1,000 for both 1928 and 1929 was received during the year from the St. Helena Development Company.

There were also, as compared with the previous year's revenue, increases of £390 under Customs, of £400 under Lands, due to the collection of arrears; and there were decreases of £144 under Royalties, (but arrears of £250 are being collected), of £165 under Fines and Fees, of £550 under Post Office, and of £340 under Miscellaneous. It appears that the demands of philatelists are being reduced to normal proportions and that no further extraordinary revenue can be anticipated from this source.

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On the whole the revenue returns show more satisfactory results than at one time during the year was thought probable.

The principal items of revenue were :—

	£
Customs...	5,253
Taxes	579
Fines, Fees, etc.	1,366
Post Office	2,100
Lands	1,400
Agriculture and Forests	307
Investments	434
Ascension	4,657

The expenditure amounted to £22,385, being £3 in excess of the estimate and £2,714 in excess of the previous year's expenditure.

As compared with 1928, the reorganization of the Secretariat, Treasury, Customs, and Law Office resulted in an economy of £225. There is an increase of £580 under Agriculture and Forestry arising from the appointment of an Horticultural Officer and from increased provision for labour and stores. Under Public Works Department there is an increase of £300 occasioned by the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent of Works, and under Public Works Extraordinary there is an increase of £1,693, the Department having got into its full stride with its programme of Extraordinary Works and provision of £250 being included for the expenses in connection with the visit of Mr. Bathgate, late Assistant Director of Works in Nigeria.

The principal items of expenditure were :—

	£
Pensions...	781
Governor	1,144
Secretariat	1,065
Treasury and Customs	750
Police	622
Medical and Sanitary	3,156
Education	810
Post Office	403
Agriculture and Forestry	1,224
Miscellaneous	723
Public Works Department	1,204
Public Works Recurrent	3,065
Public Works Extraordinary	4,103
Ascension	2,165

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The revenue (including grant-in-aid) and expenditure for the past five years are :—

	Revenue.	*including Grant-in-Aid of*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£	£
1925	21,731	7,000	19,566
1926	23,945	2,500	23,154
1927	20,486	2,500	16,740
1928	15,549	—	19,671
1929	20,456	4,000	22,385

The ordinary recurrent revenue and expenditure for the same period are approximately as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925	12,537	14,758
1926	13,522	15,224
1927	16,600	15,940
1928	14,162	15,794
1929	15,256	17,434

The Colony stands in need, therefore, of a grant-in-aid of approximately £2,000 to balance the ordinary recurrent budget.

Assets and Liabilities :—The statement of assets and liabilities shows an excess of assets over liabilities amounting to £2,666.

Public Debt :—The Colony is free from public debt.

Banking :—The Government Savings Bank is the only banking institution in the island.

The total number of depositors on the 31st December, 1929, was 228 as compared with 234 in 1928. The total deposits amounted to £5,569, an increase of £1,928 over that of 1928.

Stock to the value of £11,698 (cost price) is held by the Government on behalf of the depositors.

The amount due to depositors on 31st December, 1929, was £17,370, as against £16,099 on the same date in 1928.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture and Industries.

The welfare of St. Helena is bound up with the cultivation of the land. This was the opinion of Sir Daniel Morris in 1884, " I look entirely to the soil," he wrote, "for the elements to bring prosperity to St. Helena." The same opinion was expressed nearly 40 years later in a lecture given in Jamestown by Professor Daly of Havard,

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who had visited St. Helena to study its geology. Mr. Mason, who came from South Africa in 1922 to report on the island's agriculture, came to the conclusion that St. Helena "was a country for the smallholder."

The only industry of importance at the present time is the cultivation of *phormium tenax* (New Zealand flax) and the manufacture of fibre and tow from its leaves.

This plant does not appear in Dr. Roxburgh's list of plants seen by him on the island in 1813–1814. His list, however, does not profess to be complete as his bad state of health during his residence prevented him from compiling a full catalogue.

The first reference so far discoverable is in Mellis' *St. Helena*, 1875, " . . . New Zealand flax with other fibre producing plants all now grow wild, and bear evidence to the very small attention that has been paid by the inhabitants to the soil and its productions, in the fact that none are made use of " ; and again, " New Zealand flax grows wild and is common about the highlands. Hitherto the only use made of this plant has been by the market gardeners for tying up bunches of vegetables, etc ; and, although the value of the plant for the fibre it yields has long attracted attention, it is only recently that its cultivation has been undertaken with this object in view. During the last year or so a very considerable extent of land has been planted with it."

Flax first appears in the agricultural returns for 1873, when 100 acres were said to be given over to its cultivation. In the following year machinery was set up for the extraction of fibre from aloe and from *phormium tenax*, and from 1875 to 1881 there were exports of fibre from both plants, the highest returns being 100 tons and 83 tons in 1879 and 1880 respectively. Prices then fell, and after 1881 the export ceased.

Sir Daniel Morris in his report of 1883 wrote : " I commend the subject of the extraction of fibre from the New Zealand flax to the careful attention of proprietors in the island . . . obtaining some return from the hundreds of tons of the material now growing uselessly on such extensive tracts in the island." He obtained a report on a sample of New Zealand flax treated by a machine erected by Mr. Deason, " this fibre," the report said, " would be fairly saleable in large quantities."

In the Colonial Report for 1889 in referring to the production of fibre it was explained that the difficulties of obtaining an adequate supply of water and of proper machinery had still to be overcome.

It was not till 1904–5 that serious attention was again given to the production of fibre, when proposals in connection with the matter were mooted from South Africa and England. It was pointed out, however, that any extension of the cultivation of New Zealand flax meant the breaking up of grass and pasture land, and that the preservation of such land was necessary for raising stock for the meat supply of the garrison.

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The withdrawal of the garrison in 1906–7 altered the whole situation. In June, 1906, a deputation consisting of Messrs. H. B. Morrice, H. J. Bovell, and H. W. Solomon interviewed the Secretary of State for the Colonies and urged the establishment of a Government flax mill in the island. With the assistance of a grant-in-aid, flax planting was encouraged, an expert was obtained from New Zealand, and the Government mill was opened in 1907. In 1913 Solomon and Co. opened their first mill, followed three years later by Deason Brothers, and in 1923 W. A. Thorpe and Sons also began milling operations. In 1925 the St. Helena Corporation acquired a lease of the Government mill.

At the present time, therefore, there are four firms engaged in fibre production, and there are eleven stripping and scutching machines operating. There are about 300 people employed in connection with the mills.

The area under the cultivation of *phormium tenax* is estimated at approximately 2,000 acres. The cultivation is suitable for the smallholders and is taken up by them, but by far the greater proportion of the acreage is the property of the millowners themselves.

The export of fibre and tow during the past five years has been in tons :—

	Fibre.	*Value.*	*Tow.*	*Value.*
		£		£
1925	923	33,022	420	10,953
1926	751	25,531	417	10,851
1927	738	24,542	365	7,963
1928	770	22,515	380	6,933
1929	889	26,759	505	9,191

Mr. Mason in his report (1922) discussed the flax industry. He observed that the war with its enormously inflated prices had given a stimulus to flax planting, that it had been established in suitable and unsuitable places and many of the latter when prices become normal would be likely to go out of cultivation ; that the high prices had led to the planting of ground which under normal conditions would yield much better returns if devoted to the production of ordinary agricultural crops. He was of opinion that, owing to the ease with which money could be made, slackness had crept in all round and that a general tightening up of business methods would be necessary if the industry was not to go through a critical stage. He considered that the greatest cause for uneasiness was the general practice of milling leaves too young, and that no time should be lost by the interested parties in putting their house in order. So far as the mills were concerned it would be necessary to study costs and the most economical way of producing fibre. In most cases, he observed, flax did not receive much attention from the time it was planted until it was ready for cutting. A greater yield he thought would result if it was kept free from weeds, especially in the early stages. He strongly recommended some system of grading.

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On this point Sir Henry Galway had been equally emphatic in the Colonial Report for 1908, " When the flax industry develops to any extent, say in three years' time, it will be imperative for the success of the industry that the Colony has its own grader, and so allow for all the produce exported being graded before shipment. If this is not done it is more than likely that the different mills will send home varying qualities of fibre, and so tend to give the St. Helena article a bad name in the London market."

These questions call for much closer co-operation amongst mill-owners than is apparent at the present time.

For the past few years an attempt has been made by Captain Mainwaring to establish the manufacture of rope and twine out of the local fibre. The export for the last five years has been :—

	Tons.	*Value.*
		£
1925	32	1,500
1926	$35\frac{1}{20}$	2,105
1927	18	810
1928	$26\frac{1}{2}$	1,246
1929	51	2,051

The successful development of such an enterprise would be of the greatest benefit to the island.

Fisheries.—At one time an attempt was made to start a fish-curing industry in the island, but the project failed. It is thought that supplies of fish are not more than sufficient for local needs.

Lace-making.—This industry was started in St. Helena in 1897 by Mrs. Jackson, a resident in the island. She had been impressed with its possibility as an industry for women and girls from the success which had attended a similar enterprise in Madagascar. In 1907 the Imperial Treasury gave a grant to assist and develop the industry, and an Association was formed under the presidency of the Bishop with a committee of ladies to assist in the management. The Association dissolved the following year and the industry passed into Government control. A Government lace school was established and Miss Girdwood was appointed Manageress. She soon came to the opinion that the talent of the St. Helenian was strongly in favour of the needle rather than the pillow. Reports on the work of the school were encouraging and it was considered worth while to adopt old Italian patterns and to aim at production of a high quality. It was stated in 1914 that the laces were of excellent quality and workmanship, were chiefly of Florentine and old Italian designs, and that but for the outbreak of war the school would have shown a substantial profit. In 1916 Miss Girdwood was compelled on account of ill-health to resign her appointment ; the school then closed and has not since been re-opened. Messrs. Solomon and Co.

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have opened a depot in town where the lace can now be purchased, but the St. Helena lace finds difficulty in competing with machine-made lace and with work of cheaper quality.

Ascension.

The only export from Ascension at the present time is that of turtles. The number of turtles captured during the year was 134. The average number annually exported during the past five years is 86. In former years the export was on a considerable scale, 750 turtles being exported in 1834, 600 in 1850, and 650 in 1853.

Investigations are being made into the possibilities of exploiting the minerals and the phosphates on the island.

About 1,600 tons of lava rock were shipped to England for experimental treatment.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The value of the Colony's trade with overseas during 1929 amounted to £85,976 as compared with £80,307 in 1928. The value of imports decreased by £1,635 whilst the value of exports increased by £7,034.

The Customs revenue amounted to £5,253 as against £4,863 in 1928, the increase being principally due to two large consignments of paraffin oil and petrol imported direct from the United States of America, and to a new flax mill opened during the year. This mill, coupled with a larger crop of green leaf being available for milling, increased the export revenue.

Imports.

The value of imports during the year amounted to £47,405 distributed as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	34,848
South Africa	8,051
Foreign countries	4,506
	£47,405

Importations from South Africa and foreign countries were mainly food, drink, paraffin oil, petrol, and tobacco.

The principal differences as compared with 1928 were :—

Increases—	£
Building Material	553
Foodstuffs (Unenumerated)	191
Grain, seed and oil cake	608
Paraffin Oil	2,705
Petrol	497
Motor Vehicles	552
Tea	125

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Decreases—	£
Chemicals, Drugs, etc.	289
Coal and Coke	187
Flour	2,108
Hardware, Metals, etc.	1,093
Leather, Boots, etc.	289
Machinery	549
Rice	302
Stationery	311
Sugar	512

Government imports in 1929 were valued at £2,362 as against £2,713 in 1928. The value of munitions of war is not included.

Exports.

The value of exports in 1929 amounted to £38,571 as against £31,267 in 1928, distributed as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	36,175
South Africa	2,396

These exports are classified as follows :—

	United Kingdom.	*South Africa.*
	£	£
Raw Material	34,519	1,884
Manufactured Articles, produce and manufacture of the Colony	1,494	512
Re-exports	162	—

The principal differences in value as compared with 1928 are :—

Increases—	£
Fibre	4,244
Tow	2,258
Rope and Twine	760
Metal, old	162

Decreases—	£
Flax Seed	196

The quantities of fibre and tow exported in 1929 were 889 and 505 tons respectively, as compared with 770 and 380 tons in 1928. The 889 tons of fibre is the largest export since 1925.

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V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The number of ships calling at St. Helena and Ascension during the year 1929 was 35. Exactly the same number as called during 1928.

They were classified as follows :—

Mail steamers	26
British warships	2
*Other ships	7

The total tonnage, including the sailing vessel (2,652), was 173,459 as compared with 132,315 during the year 1928.

The Union-Castle Company Line is the only one calling regularly at St. Helena and Ascension, and carries mails outward and homeward once a month.

Roads.

There are 62 miles of road in the island maintained by the Public Works Department, and the expenditure on this service during the year amounted to £1,100.

Motors are now permitted in St. Helena and though the scope for them is limited and the gradients are formidable, they will prove a great benefit from the social as well as from the economic point of view.

Posts, Telegraphs, and Telephones.

Postal communication is monthly between St. Helena and England and between St. Helena and South Africa.

The following statistics show a slight general increase in the business of the Post Office as compared with 1928.

	1928.	1929.
From England—		
No. of Mails (bags)	224	248
Parcels	1,448	1,474
Registered Articles	928	914
Money and Postal Orders ...	£1,578	£1,727
To England—		
No. of bags of Mail	66	61
Parcels	123	135
Registered Articles	1,783	1,771
Money and Postal Orders ...	£6,039	£6,822

* This includes one sailing vessel which called but did not anchor. It was boarded by licensed traders.

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	1928.	1929.
From South Africa—		
No. of bags of Mail	66	41*
Parcels	408	519
Registered Articles	449	556
Money and Postal Orders ...	£220	£252
To South Africa—		
No. of bags of Mail	32	21†
Parcels	142	126
Registered Articles	451	454
Money and Postal Orders ...	£1,463	£1,589

The Eastern Telegraph Company have cable stations at St. Helena and Ascension, where messages are accepted for all parts of the world.

There is no internal post or telegraph service. A telephone system is maintained by private subscribers, the rate per instrument being £5 per annum. The number of instruments is 34. There are 43 miles of wire. The revenue during 1929 was £192 2s. 11d. against an expenditure of £242 15s. 5d.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Subject to all local Ordinances and Orders in force, the law of the Colony is so much of the law of England for the time being as is suitable and appropriate as far as local circumstances permit.

By Royal Order in Council of the 13th February, 1839, the Supreme Court of St. Helena was established. The Governor acts as Chief Justice and is assisted by Assessors, who may be Members of Council or Justices of the Peace. By Ordinance 4 of 1927 the Court is empowered to hold Civil and Criminal Sessions at Ascension.

There were no cases before the Supreme Court during the year under review.

Police Court cases are dealt with by the Police Magistrate or by Justices of the Peace.

The number of cases reported to the Police was 131. In 52 cases action was taken in the Police Court resulting in 20 convictions. Of these convictions eight were for offences against Ordinances relating to the social economy of the island, two for offences against the person, five were for offences against property, and the others were for minor offences. There were four whippings in the case of boys.

The Police force consists in St. Helena of a sergeant and five constables and in Ascension of two constables.

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* Exclusive of parcel bags (35) which are included as mails in 1928.

† Exclusive of parcel bags (15) which are included as mails in 1928.

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There is a small Debts Court established by Ordinance No. 2 of 1905. Its jurisdiction is over all requests for the recovery of sums not exceeding £25. The Judge of this Court is usually the Police Magistrate. Eleven cases were heard in this Court during the year.

Gaol.

The number of persons committed to prison during the year was five, and two were placed on remand. The number in custody on 31st December, 1929, was 2.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

It has been a very strenuous year for the Public Works Department and the record is one of some very good work.

Reconstruction of Plantation.

The reconstruction of Plantation, the residence of the Governor, a building ruinous and dangerous owing to the depredations of white ants, was a work calculated to test to the utmost the training, the ability, and the organization in the Department, for it had been determined to entrust the work to the local staff.

The building was occupied to the last moment and to the extreme verge of safety. Roof, roof framing, ceilings, floors, and staircases had to be replaced; in fact, the shell only of the building was in a condition to remain.

It was decided to replace the slates by Robertson's Protected Metal, and the timber framing by steel framing, and to use embossed steel for the ceilings.

The following extract from the Annual Report of the Department shows the progress of the work :—

> "The work on this fine old building commenced in earnest with the full complement of staff on the 6th December, 1928. The balance of the time was occupied in the reconstruction of the Government House stables and coachman's quarters, the repair, renovation, and in many cases, the reconstruction of the Government House furniture, and the fitting up of a suitable residence for His Excellency the Governor.
>
> "On the 6th December, 1928, the staff was divided into two parties, one of which carried out the replacement of all lintels, and the making of doors and window frames.
>
> "The other half commenced the pulling down and reconstruction of the servants' quarters.
>
> "On the 15th July, 1929, the whole of the steel framing with covering and guttering arrived at Plantation.
>
> "On the 22nd July the work of erecting the framing on the lawn was commenced. This was carried out by the foreman carpenter and his men, whilst the second carpenter commenced the dangerous task of dismantling the very heavy timber of the old roof.

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"In the meantime, as news had been received that the steel framing was on the way out, two men were trained as sawyers and given practice in cutting up wood for scaffolding.

"On the 30th July the roof was successfully coupled up in accordance with plans supplied from the Crown Agents. The second carpenter had also completed the dismantling of the timbers leaving the portion over the west wing as covering to the new timber stored below the top flooring. In dismantling the roof the whole of the slates, old lead flats and valleys and a very fair amount of timber have been salvaged.

"The foreman carpenter then took over operations under the Superintendent of Works and the second carpenter carried on the completion of window and door frames.

"On the 1st August, 1929, the first steel principal truss was successfully erected. This work was continued until the whole framing was erected and covered. This work was carried out in the remarkable short time of two months."

By the end of the year the new roof with its steel framing and the embossed steel ceilings in the upper storey were in position, and most of the floors in that storey had been replaced. In addition the renewal of all the lintels had been carried out and new door and window-frames had been made.

The work thus carried out is well within the estimate of cost and of time, and is a very creditable achievement on the part of the Public Works staff, justifying the confidence reposed in them. It may be observed that, excluding out-houses, Plantation contains thirty-six rooms and offices, and that in 1895 when it became necessary to renew the slated portion of the roof 5,000 slates were required.

Plantation derives its name from the fact that it is on land which in early days was cultivated as a plantation for supplying the Governor's table and for growing yams to feed the slaves. The present building was started in 1791. During the Governorship of Colonel Wilks, the immediate predecessor of Sir Hudson Lowe, the sum of £4,500 is said to have been spent on repairs and additions to the property, and 27,000 pineasters were planted out in the grounds. The house now stands in very pleasant wooded surroundings, chiefly of oak and pine, and is a most attractive residence.

Roads.

The end of 1928 saw the arrival of a motor-roller and a stone-crusher.

The roller was a 2½ ton "A" type, made by Messrs. Barford and Perkins. It was fitted with a spindle to carry a driving wheel for operating the crusher. It has been found economical as regards fuel consumption, and owing to the absence of exceptional noise when working it soon became a matter of unconcern to most of the island horses. The crusher is an Acme Stonebreaker weighing 2½ tons, supplied by Messrs. Goodwin and Barsby.

Both roller and crusher have amply fulfilled expectations. The quantity of stone crushed was 8,620 barrels at a cost of approximately £100. By the primitive methods of stone-breaking hitherto

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in force the cost of breaking this quantity of stone would have been £270. The first essay with the roller was the intensive treatment of about one mile of the Longwood road. The result showed that, the question of funds apart, there should be no difficulty in giving the roads of the island a first-class surface.

When funds are available it is proposed to obtain a tractor which will also drive the crusher, thus leaving the roller its whole time for working on the roads. The fear that this machinery would lead to unemployment has been falsified, for there is need of additional labour for quarrying the large quantities of stone required to feed the crusher.

The various sections of the sixty miles of road in the island have received attention, and work has been done in repairing and erecting retaining and protection walls.

At the end of the year regulations with regard to motor traffic were promulgated and the first motor-car, an Austin Seven saloon imported by the Honourable H. W. Solomon, O.B.E., made its appearance. It was followed shortly after by a commercial vehicle, a 30 cwt. Chevrolet lorry, imported by the St. Helena Corporation. It is anticipated that within a short time there will be about twelve cars and half a dozen lorries running in the island.

Water Supplies.

The main water supplies throughout the island were overhauled during the year. Storage tanks have been cleaned, and covers and defective woodwork repaired or replaced.

The Jamestown service lines were thoroughly inspected and found in a satisfactory condition, and all the flushing systems were found in good order.

Two new tanks to hold 16,000 gallons each were erected during the year. The first was erected on the Castle Terrace for the shipping supply. The second was placed at the upper end of Jamestown and will increase the supply for the various needs of the town.

Transport.

This section of the Public Works Department had an exceptionally heavy programme. In addition to the needs of the Horticultural Department the crusher was making continuous requisition on transport. The carts failed under the strain, but the mules kept in good condition and stood well up to the work. The donkeys took time to recover from the effects of the drought of the previous year, but after careful nursing were able to do their full share. Two motor-lorries would greatly ease the situation.

General.

Current repairs were carried out on various Government buildings, eighteen in all receiving attention, and the wharf cranes were scraped and repainted. The expenditure on Current Repairs and Minor Works amounted to £410.

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Various works were undertaken on repayment for the Admiralty, at a cost of £1,300.

Woodworking machinery, a Ransome Newark Joinery Machine, type 365, fitted with a sawing and planing table arrived in the latter part of the year, and was installed at Plantation where it is first needed. It has been of great assistance to the staff who very quickly appreciated its value as labour-saving machinery.

It was possible to arrange early in the year for a visit to the Colony of Mr. Bathgate, late Assistant Director of Public Works in Nigeria. He reported on the various programmes of Public Works and on the activities and needs of the Department generally. The advice of such an experienced engineer and the series of valuable reports he submitted have been of the greatest assistance to the Government.

VIII.—AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE.

During the year attention was devoted mainly to the Public Gardens and Maldivia Gardens in Jamestown and to Plantation. Funds were not available for serious work on "Scotland," an estate of about ten acres purchased at the end of 1928 for a Horticultural Station.

The work in connection with the Public Gardens was highly successful, and was an object lesson as to the possibilities of horticulture in the island. With an improved water supply, for the annual rainfall in Jamestown rarely exceeds six inches, it is hoped to obtain still better results. As it is the efforts of the Horticultural Officer have converted a waste and derelict open space into a pleasant and attractive garden.

Maldivia Gardens are situated at the upper end of the town. Fruit and vegetables were supplied from them to the public, and the proceeds were credited to "The Maldivia Fund," out of which the gardens were maintained. These proceeds are now credited to general revenue, and the gardens are supported out of the departmental vote. Experiments with certain vegetables met with success, but owing to the heat and the drought poor results were obtained with cauliflowers and also with strawberries. The gardens possess some fine specimens of mango trees, but owing to fly the yield of fruit was disappointing. Lack of funds prevented any systematic spraying.

At Plantation experiments with sugar-beet, swedes, mangel-wurzels, and turnips were satisfactory, and improvement was manifest in the forage crops generally. Government transport animals depend on Plantation for most of their forage. The small coffee plot was thinned out and cleaned and the ground loosened and given a dressing of guano. The trees were not in a healthy condition and were much overgrown.

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The export of fibrous products for the year totalled 1,394 tons, being 889 tons of fibre and 505 tons of tow. This is the highest export yet recorded. The increase is due to new areas being ready for cutting. Doubts are expressed as to whether areas which have been cut two or three times will continue to maintain their yield. The general consensus of opinion is that the yield diminishes with each cutting, and this is certainly the case with the Government flax areas. The subject is one which is under investigation.

An Herbarium has been started and some 500 specimens have been collected.

During the year, owing to the enterprise of the Honourable H. J. Bovell, bees have again been introduced into the island. The yield of honey was not satisfactory, but the experiment has been a valuable one, and will be of great assistance in connection with the hives Government are hoping to introduce.

The year's expenditure of the Department amounted to £1,244. The revenue from "Maldivia" amounted to £41 as against £35 in 1928, and from the sale of timber to £56 as against £27 in that year. The sale of flax realized £257. In addition, there were 72 tons of forage supplied to Government animals, and fuel, vegetables, and fruit were supplied for the use of Government House.

IX.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The estimated civil population of St. Helena on the 31st of December, 1929, was 3,846, an increase of 51 since the same date in the previous year. In the past five years the population shows an estimated increase of 145.

The deaths in St. Helena during the year numbered 40, as against 69 in 1928, the death-rate being 10.4 compared with 18.17 in the previous year. For the past ten years the death-rate has an annual average of 11.86 per 1,000.

The deaths according to age were :—

Under 1 year	8
Between 1—10 years	4
,, 10—30 ,, ...	4
,, 30—60 ,, ...	11
,, 60—80 ,, ...	10
Over 80	3

There were 121 births as against 123 in 1928, a birth-rate of 31.46 as against 32.39.

There were 34 marriages as compared with 31 in 1928.

In Ascension with its population of 220 there were no deaths or births.

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Health.

During the year there were a few cases of chicken-pox, and two cases of typhoid, the origin of which was not traced.

A medical examination of school children was carried out during the year, the total number examined being 713. Cleanliness was reported to be above the average for European children. Adenoids were practically non-existent, and defective vision was present in very few cases. Since the appointment of the Government Dentist a great improvement in the state of the children's teeth was noticeable. As regards height and weight, taking English children as normal, it was found that the height of town children was above normal and that of country children below. The weight of both town and country children was below normal, and as between town and country children the advantage was with the country children.

The Dentist visited all the schools. The number of children treated was 362. The number of teeth extracted or refilled was 1,048. The examination and treatment of children is not compulsory.

The Dentist sums up his report as follows : " The work has been in operation long enough for definite good results to be obvious, and the various people concerned, noticeably parents, are more cordial and willing to do their share towards making it a success."

X.—EDUCATION.

There are eight primary schools in the island. Three are Government schools, three are maintained by the Hussey Charity, established in 1865 originally for the redemption of slaves, one by the Benevolent Society founded in 1814 for educational purposes and acts of benevolence, and one by the Bishop's Diocesan Fund. These schools provide for about 700 children.

A Government grant of £100 is given to the Hussey Charity Schools, of £20 to the Benevolent School, and of £15 to the Diocesan Fund School.

A carpentry class has been established in connection with the Government Boys' School and the Hussey Charity Schools. The training is quite elementary, but in the opinion of the Superintendent of Education the class " has more than justified itself as a very necessary part of our education system."

At the end of the year a Committee of ladies examined the needlework of the girls in the Government Schools and spoke very highly of the work being done.

There is, however, no provision for technical or secondary education. As regards the former, the comparatively extensive programme of public works and the establishment of a horticultural department will afford some opportunities for training boys. In the case of girls it is proposed when funds are available to start a school of domestic economy under a trained teacher.

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Pupil teachers from all the schools attend weekly classes in more or less secondary subjects covering a course of four years. The instruction includes English, elementary French, Algebra, Arithmetic, Geography, History, and Hygiene. These classes are conducted by the Rev. L. C. Walcott, Vicar of the Parish Church, who also acts as Superintendent of Education.

The expenditure on education during the year amounted to £806.

XI.—LANDS.

Sir Daniel Morris estimated the area of St. Helena to be 28,000 acres, " Of this area probably 20,000 acres or more than two-thirds are composed of barren rocky wastes or clayey slopes totally unfit in their present condition for any agricultural operations." More recent estimates give the area of agricultural and pastural lands as 10,000 acres.

The multiplicity of records and the diversity of titles introduce some degree of confusion into the tenure of land in the island.

Among the terms in the early days of the East India Company under which land was granted to " the planters, their heirs, and assignees for ever " was the condition " An Englishman to be kept on every ten acres, and to take his turn to appear in arms on guard." Appearance on guard, watch and ward, as it was termed, was commuted as early as 1683 for a payment of 2*s.* an acre, subsequently reduced to 1*s.* an acre. As regards the maintenance of an Englishman on every ten acres, the Court of Directors sent instructions in 1717 " not to enforce too rigorously " this condition.

The lands which bore this charge of 1*s.* an acre became known as " free " lands.

The Company also granted leases. In 1828 the Court conveyed to the Governor their approval of the conversion of leaseholds into permanent tenure, " We are . . . prepared to sanction the grant to such of the parties now holding temporary leases as may by their management of the property and the buildings they have erected have proved themselves worthy of the boon of a permanent title to the lands, with a reservation, however, of our right in each case, when the public service may demand it, to resume possession of the land upon the payment of its valuation, to be assessed by a jury, providing also that a quit rent varying from 3*s.* per acre to 6*d.* per acre to be in like manner assessed."

These lands became known locally as " permanent tenure " land.

Lastly, under a Proclamation dated the 7th of August, 1843, the Government gave notice that it would commute the ground rents of the several tenures into rent-free grants at 10 or 12½ years rental according to the nature of the tenure. A considerable number of grantees took advantage of this offer. It does not appear that the right of Government to resume for public purposes was made a condition in this scheme of commutation.

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There is still a considerable area of Government land on lease, and during recent years a number of small plots have been granted to smallholders, originally for growing flax.

The number of properties on the Government rent roll amounts to 427, representing about £1,200 per annum in rents.

It is difficult to arrive at the market value of land owing to the paucity of transactions, but from £7 10*s.* to £10 an acre would not be an unreasonable price for cultivated land.

The only legislation dealing with land is Ordinance No. 1 of 1893, to simplify conveyancing and titles to land and to provide for registration.

XII.—LABOUR CONDITIONS AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages for skilled and semi-skilled workmen vary from 3/6 to 5/6 per day and for unskilled labour from 2/– to 2/6 per day of eight to ten hours. Women are paid less.

The Government minimum wage is 2/6 per day, amounting to 15/– a week of forty-five hours, the half day on Saturday counting as a full day.

In domestic service the monthly wage for housemaids varies from 10/– to £2, for cooks from 30/– to £4 5s., and for male servants from 30/– to £4 15s.

There is no Government insurance against sickness, unemployment, or old age.

In the case of sickness the St. Helenians themselves to a great extent have been accustomed to provide for sick pay and also for burial expenses by insurance in one or more of the Friendly Societies, which have been for many years a feature of the social economy of the island.

The law governing these Societies is Ordinance No. 31 of 1839. It provides for the formation of Societies " for the mutual relief and maintenance of all and every the members thereof their wives, children, relations, and nominees, in sickness, infancy, advanced age, widowhood, or any other natural state or contingency, whereof the occurrence is susceptible of calculation by way of average, or for any other purpose which is not illegal." It provides also for the making of " proper and wholesome rules," for the rendering of accounts, and for the hearing of complaints before two Justices of the Peace. It is provided further that the Acts of Parliament of 10th George IV. chap. 56 and the 4th and 5th William IV chap. 40, as far as the same are applicable and not repugnant to the Colony's Ordinance shall be in force in the Colony. This Ordinance has stood for nearly a century without the demand or, apparently, the need for revision, except that by the Children Life Insurance Ordinance of 1921 insurance on the life of children under five years of age is prohibited.

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There are four Friendly Societies for men with a recorded membership of 1,628, but as already stated several persons are members of more than one Society. The male population of the island over fourteen years of age may be estimated at approximately 1,150.

The oldest of the Societies is the Mechanics' Society founded in 1839. The membership is 393 and the amount of the invested funds is £666. The weekly subscription is 6d., and the sick relief granted is 1/6 per day, decreasing after six months. The burial allowance is £4 or £8 for a member and £3 or £6 for his wife, the higher rate being payable after twelve months' membership.

The St. Helena Poor Society was founded in 1847. It has a membership of 498, and its invested funds amount to £4,400. The monthly subscription is 6d. and it is provided that while the capital remains at £4,000 and upwards the sum of £170 may be expended in sick relief, but no member shall receive more than 5/– per month. The grant for burial expenses varies from £8 to £14 according to length of membership.

The Foresters were established in 1871. The membership is 390 and the invested funds amount to £1,405. The subscription is 3/– to 4/– a month. The sick benefit is 2/– per day decreasing according to the duration of the illness. The allowance for funeral expenses is £14 for a member and £7 for his wife.

The St. Helena Working Men's Christian Association was founded in 1875. Its membership is 347 and its invested funds amount to £350. The subscription is 6d. per week. The rate of sick relief is 1/6 per day decreasing after six months. The burial allowance is £8 for a member and £4 for his wife or widow.

The Societies provide also for medical attendance and medicines. There is an entrance fee payable according to age.

For women there is the Church Provident Society established in 1878. The number of members is 285 and the funds amount to £471. There is no fixed allowance for sick relief, but while the capital remains at £300 grants of varying amounts are made.

The burial allowance is £4 and £3 for members of over or under twelve months standing. Provision is made for medical attendance and medicines.

Unemployment more or less severe has to be reckoned with from time to time, but during the year under review it did not attain serious proportions. Whether sound or not economically and socially, the principle that it is better to employ two men at 2/– a day each than one man at 4/– a day does tend to keep unemployment down. The aim of Government as and when funds permit is to establish new opportunities for employment in the island and to train St. Helenians for employment outside.

As regards old age pensions it has been calculated that the sum of approximately £1,500 a year would suffice to provide all persons of over 70 with a pension of five shillings a week.

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There is a Poor Relief Board, established under the Poor Relief Ordinance, 1914. Its members are elected annually by the rate-payers, and they shall be a Board "for the care and management of the concerns of the poor." "They shall examine into the state and condition of the poor and shall enquire into and determine the proper objects of relief, and the nature and amount of the relief to be given, and shall enquire into and superintend the collection and administration of all monies to be raised and applied by the Parish to the relief of the poor." The annual revenue of the Board is about £900 to £1,000, derived from a 5d. rate, and a Government contribution of £82.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living is moderate. Good meat, including fowls, is obtainable at 1/– per lb., fish is cheap and good, eggs vary according to season from 1/6 to 2/– per dozen, fresh butter is 2/6 per lb., fresh milk and fresh vegetables are usually obtainable at reasonable prices, rice, which with fish forms the staple diet of the St. Helenian, is 3d. per lb.

There are no duties on imported foodstuffs. On wines the duty is 4/– per gallon, and on spirits under proof 12/6 per gallon. The duty on cigarettes is 3/– per lb. and on pipe tobacco 2/– per lb.; on unmanufactured tobacco it is 6d. per lb.

There is a five per cent. *ad valorem* duty on certain articles regarded as luxuries, which brings in about £120 a year to the revenue.

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Meteorology.

At Hutt's Gate, 1,900 feet, where the principal observations are taken, the rainfall for the year was 30 inches. The heaviest fall was .92 on the 16th May. At Plantation at the other end of the island the rainfall was 28.09 and the heaviest fall was .78 on the same date. The number of raindays at Hutt's Gate was 230 and at Plantation 190. The rainfall decreases as sea-level is approached till at Jamestown it is usually below ten inches.

Upper air observations by means of pilot balloons were taken during the year at Longwood on behalf of the Air Ministry. Their object was to determine the nature of the winds overlaying the Trades. The longest run for the year was in June, when the balloon reached a height of approximately 26,500 feet, remaining under observation for 53 minutes, proving, at this height, that the winds do not follow the normal course of the Trades but, inversely, they oppose them, which was observed in every case of an ascent of more than 20,000 feet where the direction of the wind is generally from the north-west instead of the usual south-east at sea-level.

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There appears to be a strong " eddy " or air pocket in the 2,500 feet layer which was consistently observed in balloon ascents.

There were no electrical disturbances, visible to the naked eye, during the year.

At Ascension the rainfall for the year on Green Mountain, about 1,900 feet, was 41.91 and at Georgetown, sea-level, 3.14 inches.

Legislation.

Six Ordinances, five Orders in Council, and one Proclamation were issued in the course of the year. Of general interest were the Regulations to govern motor traffic, passed under the Motor Car Ordinance, 1928.

Staff.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. Lucas Salier, M.C., Controller of Labour at Ascension, was appointed Government Secretary.

Dr. Burton succeeded Dr. Carleton as Colonial Surgeon and Dr. Cramer succeeded Dr. Cassidy as Assistant Colonial Surgeon.

Miss Sutton was appointed Nursing Sister vice Miss Guidera, whose term of engagement had expired.

Mr. F. R. Thorpe was appointed Coroner.

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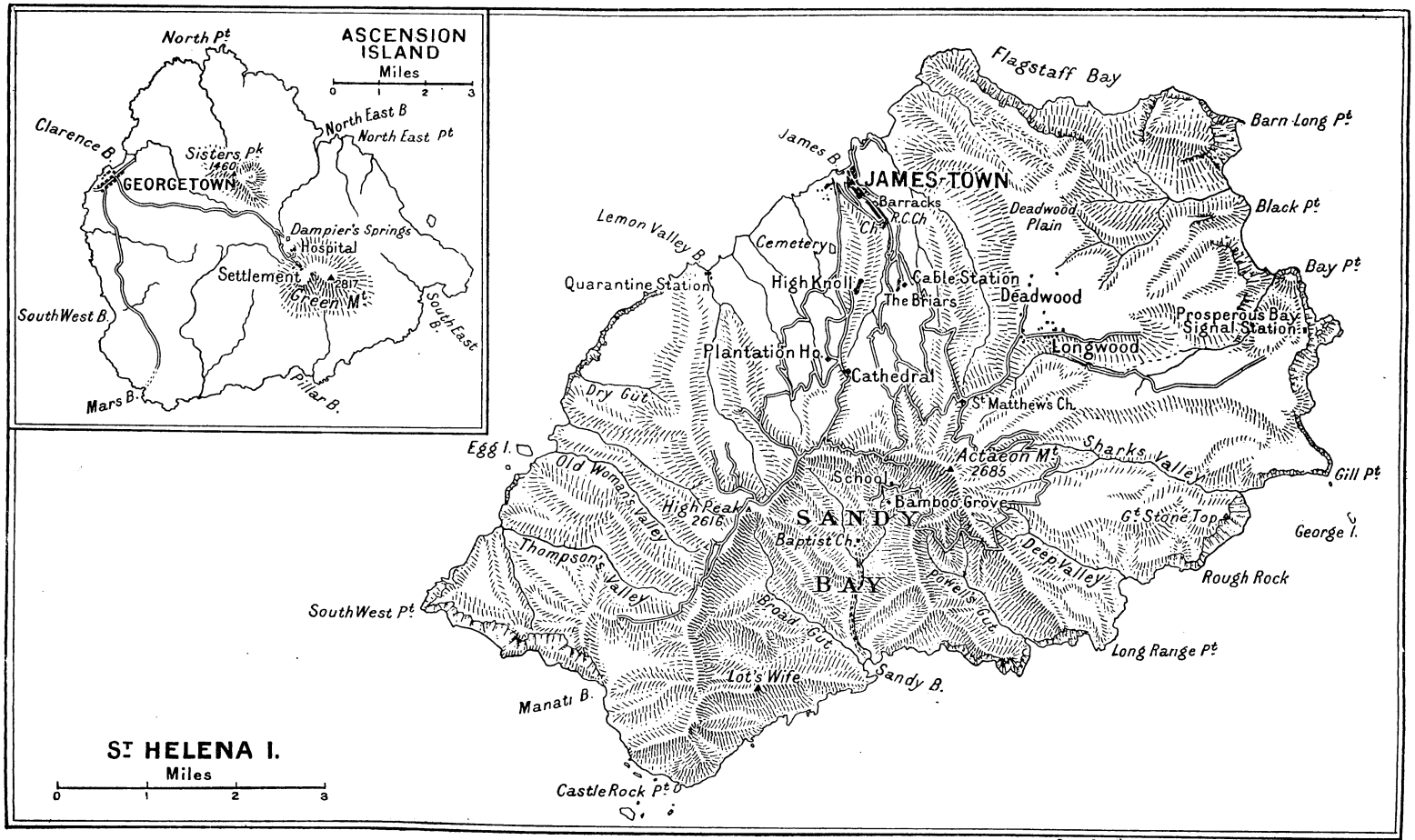

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PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

1. Sierra Leone, which has been known to historians for many centuries, first became a British settlement in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The settlement was established, at the instance of a Society for the Abolition of Slavery from which sprang the Sierra Leone Company, in order to make suitable provision for a large number of slaves who had found their way to England after the American War of 1782, and also for such slaves as might be recaptured by British ships operating against the slavers. A strip of land was acquired on the north of the Sierra Leone Peninsula, and on this site the first colonists were landed in May, 1787. The original grant was made by the local chief, King Tom, and this grant was subsequently ratified by the Paramount Chief Nembanna.

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In 1791 a charter was granted to the Sierra Leone Company with exclusive right to lands purchased from the native chiefs, and in 1792 the original colonists were joined by a large party of Africans (freed slaves who had fought for the English in the American War of Independence) from Nova Scotia. Later, in 1800, about 550 Maroons—originally slaves who had fled from their masters in Jamaica and on surrender were conveyed to Nova Scotia—were transported to Sierra Leone and allotted lands at Granville Town (now Fura Bay and Cline Town).

For the first few years of its existence the Colony suffered many hardships and privations through famine and disease, and was attacked three times from the land by the Temnes and once from the sea by a French squadron.

On the 1st January, 1808 (in pursuance of a Bill in Parliament, which received the Royal Assent on the 8th August, 1807), the Colony, comprising the original settlement and certain adjacent territory ceded to the Sierra Leone Company by King Firama and King Tom, was transferred to the Crown.

About the same time, in March, 1808, a Vice-Admiralty Court was constituted in Sierra Leone for the adjudication of all captured slaves brought in by His Majesty's ships. These slaves, who were known as "Liberated Africans," were allotted various occupations; and many of them eventually became merged with the earlier inhabitants. Unfortunately disease and lack of proper accommodation caused many casualties from time to time, while large numbers entered military service or emigrated. Nevertheless the population of Freetown rapidly increased from about 1,000 in 1808 to about 13,000 in 1826.

Chiefly owing to slave-dealing by native chiefs and European adventurers in the neighbourhood of Freetown, the English settlement soon found it necessary to intervene in the affairs of the hinterland; and from time to time various treaties were made with the surrounding chiefs by which certain lands were ceded to the Crown. By this means the Crown Colony was gradually extended so as to comprise the whole of the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Sherbro Island, Turner's Peninsula, Banana Islands, and a number of small islands adjacent to Sherbro. Several missions were also sent to more distant chiefdoms with a view to opening up trade with the interior; these were often helpful in settling inter-tribal wars, and led to an extension of British influence over the territory now embraced in the Sierra Leone Protectorate.

From 1822 to 1827 the Governors of Sierra Leone held the title of Governor-in-Chief of the West African Settlements, and in this capacity were required to visit the Gold Coast and the Gambia. It was within this period, on the 21st January, 1824, that Governor Sir Charles MacCarthy was killed in a battle against the Ashantis at Assamako in the Gold Coast. In 1827, the Gold Coast Settlements were handed over to a Committee of Merchants (The African

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Company) and for a time ceased to be under the Governor of Sierra Leone ; but owing to reports as to the merchants' connivance with the slave trade the Gold Coast was again placed under the Sierra Leone Government in 1843. Further changes took place in 1850 (by a Charter of the 24th January) when the British territories on the Gold Coast were made a separate Government, and in 1866, when (by a Charter of the 19th February) the Imperial Government constituted once more what was termed the Government of the West African Settlements, comprising Sierra Leone, the Gambia, the Gold Coast, and Lagos, and the Governor of Sierra Leone became the Governor-in-Chief. Eventually, a new Charter, dated the 24th July, 1874, effected the separation which exists at the present time.

In 1886 the Colony was placed in telegraphic communication with England.

In 1895 the northern boundary between the British and French spheres of influence and interests was ratified by agreement, the eastern boundary being subsequently defined in 1911 by agreement between the British and French Governments and the British and Liberian Governments.

In 1896 the hinterland of Sierra Leone was declared a Protectorate and divided into administrative districts, and Ordinances were passed providing for its administration.

The year 1898 was marked by an insurrection in the Protectorate ; this broke out when a Temne chief (Bai Bureh) refused to pay the house tax, which was then being imposed for the first time. In April of that year the insurrection became more general and many Mende chiefdoms were involved. The resulting military operations were brought to a successful conclusion early in the following year, and since that date the Protectorate has remained peaceful.

2. The territory comprising the Colony and Protectorate of Sierra Leone is about the size of Ireland (27,250 square miles) and lies between the 7th and 10th parallels of North latitude and 10° 40′, and 13° 21′ of West longitude. It extends for a maximum distance of rather over 200 miles from north to south and of about 180 miles from west to east.

The Colony proper, as already indicated, comprises the Sierra Leone Peninsula, Turner's Peninsula, Sherbro and a number of smaller islands.

The Sierra Leone Peninsula was doubtless well known to the earliest navigators, as it is one of the few places on the coast of West Africa where mountainous land is found close to the sea. Its conical peaks, of which the highest is Picket Hill (2,912 ft.), are visible for great distances at certain seasons of the year.

These mountains are of very old volcanic formation, consisting chiefly of norite. The Peninsula is well wooded in places, but was probably always thinly populated on account of its mountainous character and the rocky and somewhat poor nature of its soil.

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Possibly these two characteristics account for the readiness of the ruling chiefs and their people to concede the land to the British Government on various occasions between the years 1788 and 1861. The total area of the Peninsula is about 260 square miles, and its population, including Freetown, numbers 85,163 (1921 Census).

Freetown, the capital of the Colony, is situated on the north-east corner of the Peninsula on a fine natural harbour formed by the mouth of the Rokelle or Sierra Leone River. The deep channel, which is over a mile in width, affords good anchorage close to the shore for the largest ships.

The town itself is on the whole well laid out with straight and often broad streets ; this is due to the surveyors who accompanied even the earliest expedition for the purpose of establishing a settlement, and who planned the nucleus of a well-designed town. During the past fifteen years a number of good public and private buildings have been erected, and during the past ten years the streets have been greatly improved. At the present time about 800 motor vehicles ply in and around Freetown. The town enjoys a splendid pipe-borne water supply, the catchment area being situated in the mountains, where there are large reservations of land. This and other equally important sanitary improvements have done much towards dispelling the evil reputation from which the city has long suffered. At the present time the Government is engaged in canalizing the main streams and the street drains ; and an expenditure of approximately £200,000 on this work is contemplated. The population of Freetown, according to the 1921 Census, was approximately 45,000.

Sherbro Island, which is almost equal in area to the Peninsula, is situated at the estuaries of several large rivers and owes its importance as a trading centre to this fact. The island is flat and sandy generally and is intersected by creeks. The chief town is Bonthe, a port of call for sea-going steamers.

The Protectorate is well watered by a network of rivers and streams. There are eight or nine considerable rivers which have their source from a range of hills in the north-east forming part of the Futa Jallon Range (the watershed of an important system of rivers, including the Niger and the Gambia). Most of these rivers have wide estuaries ; and, though none of them is navigable for ocean-going steamers, several of them provide useful waterways for launches, lighters, and small tugs, particularly during the rainy season. On the other hand, they have been a severe handicap to motor road-making, which has, nevertheless, progressed rapidly of late, see Section V.

The nature of the country varies considerably. A line drawn east from Freetown indicates approximately the latitude at which the dense bush country (originally tropical forest) of the south gives place to the more thinly wooded country of the north. In the

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northern belt the rainfall is somewhat less than in the south, and the nights are undoubtedly cooler.

The Protectorate supports an average of 57.48 persons to the square mile. The population is somewhat denser in the Central and Southern Provinces than in the Northern Province.

The population of the Protectorate according to the 1921 Census was 1,456,148. The following tribes inhabit the three Provinces :—

Northern Province	...	Susus, Yalunkas, Limbas, Lokkos and Temnes, with some Mandingoes, Fulahs, and Kissis.
Central Province	...	Konnos, Kissis, and Mendes, with some Bandis and Golas.
Southern Province	...	Mendes, Krims, Veis, Golas, Sherbros and some Temnes.

The Mendes and Temnes are the most numerous of all these tribes, and their languages are the most important amongst native dialects in the Protectorate. In Freetown, however, and the surrounding districts a kind of " pidgin " English is spoken by the inhabitants other than literates, and this form of English, which is almost unintelligible to the Englishman himself on his first arrival in the country, is beginning to be understood in most parts of the Protectorate.

Currency, etc.

3. Imperial currency, monetary units, and weights and measures are in use in the Colony and Protectorate. In addition to Imperial currency, West African silver coins and West African alloy coins are current, and also West African notes of the values £1 and 10s.

West African currency is issued and controlled by the West African Currency Board : a sum of £25,041 was, during the year under review, received from the Board as the Colony's share of the distribution of income from investments.

I.—GENERAL.

4. The general trade of the Colony was disappointing on the whole, especially during the last six months of the year. The revenue for the year was £48,000 short of the estimate. Against this, however, can be set the fact that expenditure was short of the estimate by £60,000, so that on the financial working of the year the position is sound.

5. The general health of the Colony has continued to be satisfactory. Infant welfare work is being further extended and grants to Missions for the establishment of hospitals in the Protectorate was initiated with promising results.

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6. Mr. F. A. Stockdale, C.B.E., Assistant Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State, paid a visit to the Colony during November and advised the Government as to the reorganization of the Agricultural Department and the future policy to be pursued. Later, in December, the Colony was visited by Mr. H. E. Sampson, C.I.E., of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and late Director of Agriculture, Madras, who also gave some useful advice. One result of both these visits was a decision to make a special effort to improve the method of swamp rice growing and to stimulate cultivation of this important product for home consumption and even for export, more particularly in view of the slump in price of palm kernels, on which single product this Colony has hitherto been somewhat dangerously dependent.

7. Mining discoveries continued to offer a prospect of development in a new direction tending to influx of capital and improved import trade.

In this connection the year was noteworthy for the commencement of actual platinum mining in the Colony ; but gold was still in the prospecting stage, though several companies are actively pursuing the discoveries made by the Geological Department. Further discoveries included that of chromite ore (used for chromium plating and in the manufacture of stainless steel) in the Central Province.

The African and Eastern Trade Corporation (now merged into the United Africa Company) continued its preliminary steps towards development of the iron ore deposits at Marampa, where that firm has a concession rented from the Paramount Chief. One important step was the survey of a railway, sixty miles long, from Marampa to Gapul Point. In October, proposals were put forward for the assistance of this very promising mining enterprise by means of a loan from the Colonial Development Fund.

II.—FINANCE.

8. The financial year is from 1st January to 31st December. The following table gives the revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925	945,581	843,320
1926	855,440	957,155
1927	719,637*	754,610*
1928	826,319	815,374
1929	740,646	871,086

* The figures of revenue and expenditure for the years 1925 and 1926 include gross totals of railway revenue and expenditure. From the year 1927 only the net result of the working of the railway is included in the general accounts.

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9. The year's working may be summarized as follows :—

	£	£
Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 1st January, 1929		294,501
Expenditure for 1929	871,086	
Revenue for 1929	740,646	130,440
Excess of Assets over Liabilities on 31st December, 1929		164,061

Of the total revenue in 1929, the sum of £507,047 was derived from Customs duties, £97,503 from indirect taxation, and £136,096 from other sources of revenue.

The funded debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1929, was £1,787,673, against which the accumulations to the Sinking Funds, for its amortization, amounted at that date to £463,881 11s. 4d.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

10. The Department of Lands and Forests was divided into separate Agricultural and Forestry Departments at the beginning of 1929. The present Agricultural Department now includes the old Division of Agriculture, the Research Division, and the Division of Inspection of Plants and Produce.

11. The system at the Experimental Oil Palm Plantation at Mabang in the Protectorate (the object of which is to test the possibility of competing with the better quality of palm oil now being produced by plantation methods in the East) was reorganized in the light of previous experience. It was found that planting had somewhat outstripped the nursery work, so attention was concentrated on the latter with a view to a large planting programme in 1930. This plantation is now subsidized by the Empire Marketing Board, as well as by a commercial firm particularly interested in the palm oil trade.

12. In the Northern Province some 33 small model plantations of Nigerian oil palms have been established by native chiefs under the supervision of the Agricultural Department. These plantations vary in size from one to five acres and are for the purpose of demonstrating the value of a good type of palm fruit grown under cultivation. Great interest is being taken in these plantations.

13. Amongst the crops to which particular attention was directed in the Protectorate, perhaps the most important, next to palm kernels and palm oil, was swamp rice. The policy of fostering swamp rice cultivation by means of demonstration farms was continued. Also, as indicated in Section I, General, further steps were contemplated in the year under review for promoting this form of cultivation, the value of which is already appreciated by the natives of most parts of the Protectorate ; and these include the introduction of

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methods from India and the East after a visit thereto by a selected Agricultural Officer. The use of sweet potatoes as a dry season crop following swamp rice is also being advocated in suitable inland swamps.

14. Piassava is another important product of the Protectorate. Unfortunately certain misunderstandings attended the inspection of this product—such inspection being necessary with a view to insuring that the fibre exported can compete in quality with similar fibres produced elsewhere—and the result was a fall in export early in the year. These difficulties have now been cleared up and the exports are again increasing. The quality of the fibre exported is greatly improved.

15. Other crops in the Protectorate, to which particular attention was paid, were coffee, cocoa, and coconuts. These can only be regarded at present as minor products so far as Sierra Leone is concerned; but coffee growing in particular made considerable progress during the year.

16. A certain amount of success has attended the introduction of ploughs in the Northern Province and some thirty ploughs and harrows have been bought by native chiefs through the Department.

17. The Experimental Fruit Farm at Newton (in the Colony) is now well established and the banana plots have already been planted while nursery work for the citrus plantations is well in hand.

18. As already mentioned, Mr. F. A. Stockdale, C.B.E., the Assistant Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State, visited Sierra Leone during the year, and recommended certain alterations in the policy and administration of the Agricultural Department. The main items in the scheme of reorganization are the establishing of the headquarters of the Department at Njala (the departmental experimental station), the basing of all propaganda and demonstration work upon the results of actual experimental work, a more intensive study of local agricultural needs, and the development of swamp rice both in tidal and inland swamps.

Forestry.

19. During 1929, the Forestry Department, which in 1922 had been merged in the Department of Lands and Forests, became once more a separate entity.

20. The area of reserved natural forest was increased by 115 square miles and the existing reserves were maintained.

21. On the re-formation of the Department the forest policy of the Government was examined, particularly from the view point of economy, and after careful consideration it was decided to—

(*a*) restrict reservation of natural forests to those areas that are of a certain minimum extent;

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(*b*) postpone further reservations pending completion of the Topographical Survey ;

(*c*) begin a limited programme of experimental re-afforestation —two waste areas, one in the Central and the other in the Northern Province, and both accessible by rail or otherwise, to be selected for this purpose ;

(*d*) reduce the staff to actual requirements, in the light of the new policy, eliminating certain features of the old policy which are now considered to be redundant.

Mines.

22. Continued progress was made in 1929 in the prospecting and development of the mineral deposits found by the Geological Survey. One mining lease for platinum and 19 exclusive prospecting licences for platinum, gold, and chromite were granted during the year, and 16 prospecting rights were issued. In addition there were numerous applications for exclusive prospecting licences for gold, chromite, ilmenite, and iron ore.

23. Permission to mine on one mining right application was granted at the end of October and up to the end of the year 26 ounces of coarse crude platinum were won.

24. Several areas are being prospected for gold in the Central and Northern Provinces. Satisfactory progress is being made and production of alluvial gold will soon commence.

25. Active development was continued on the Marampa Iron Ore concession, to which special reference is made in Section I, General.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Imports.

26. The import trade of the Colony during 1929 suffered a set-back, the total value of imports (£1,789,053) being £265,454 less than that of the previous year. The following tables show the value of the imports in the several classes of goods during the two years 1928 and 1929 :—

	1928.	1929.
	£	£
Commercial Imports	1,625,886	1,474,126
Government Imports	158,903	193,126
Specie	269,718	121,801
Total	£2,054,507	£1,789,053

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	1928.	1929.
	£	£
Class I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	433,269	494,865
,, II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ...	140,238	166,429
,, III.—Articles mainly manufactured	1,207,233	1,002,491
,, IV.—Miscellaneous	3,757	3,096
,, V.—Bullion and Specie	270,010	122,172
Total	£2,054,507	£1,789,053

The increase in Class I was brought about by heavier imports of flour, rice, and unmanufactured tobacco; the decrease shown against Class III is mainly a cotton decrease.

27. The revenue derived from the import of spirits now appears to have reached a more or less stable figure (£44,936). Revenue collected from this source in 1913 amounted to £173,565; as compared with this the average revenue thus obtained during the past four years amounts to a sum of £42,957. Spirits of all kinds have been superseded in popular estimation in recent years by beers and light wines.

28. Any depression in trade is first reflected in the import of cotton goods which the African in hard times regards as a luxury and refuses to buy; unmanufactured tobacco, on the other hand, he regards as a necessity of life and will buy even in the hardest times; hence during the year under review, while the import of unmanufactured tobacco showed an increase, the total value of cottons imported (piece goods and other cottons) showed a decrease (as compared with that of the 1928 imports) of £236,201, while the revenue derived from this source decreased by £28,306.

Exports.

29. The Colony's exports showed a corresponding decrease, being valued at £1,532,237 as compared with £1,829,093 in 1928. The following table gives a comparative statement of the principal exports (quantities and values) during the past two years :—

Articles.	Quantities.		Value.	
	1928	1929	1928	1929
			£	£
Cocoa, raw (tons)... ...	84	96	3,176	3,398
Ginger (cwt.)	20,431	30,966	30,582	59,308
Pepper (tons)	105	62	10,554	5,131
Rice (tons)	373	13	5,027	220
Benniseed (tons)	116	179	2,110	2,997
Hides (lb.)...	71,114	97,670	4,386	4,656
Kolas (lb.)...	7,390,560	7,005,078	281,997	266,422
Palm kernels (tons) ...	67,105	60,205	1,150,649	876,308
Palm Oil (tons)	2,525	2,845	66,445	75,153
Piassava (tons)	3,189	1,232	40,369	17,177

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Palm Kernels.—The Colony's most important product, palm kernels, the export of which has been steadily rising since 1922, showed a decrease in export commensurate with the general depression in trade experienced during the latter part of the year. From 67,105 tons in 1928 (the highest recorded figure) the export dropped to 60,205 tons, with a loss in value of £274,341 ; this decrease is entirely attributable to the falling away of the European market price and the producer's disinclination to sell his wares at the reduced rates. Of the amount exported Germany purchased 29,703 tons, the United Kingdom 21,319 tons, Holland 7,227 tons, and other countries 1,956 tons.

Palm Oil.—A noticeable feature in the export of palm oil from Sierra Leone (as compared with its export from other oil palm producing countries) is that it does not in its rise and fall reflect the rise and fall in the export of palm kernels ; thus, while palm kernels showed a falling away of 6,900 tons, palm oil (as will be seen from the above table) showed an increase of 320 tons in quantity and £8,708 in value. The greater portion of oil exported went to the United Kingdom, but 117 tons of fresh edible oil were exported to the Gambia Colony.

Kola Nuts.—The quality of the Sierra Leone kola, the Colony's second most important export, bears a reputation that is second to none in West African markets, but this article also shows a falling away as compared with the previous year's production ; the decrease in quantity amounted to 385,482 lb. and in value to £15,575. Sierra Leone kolas are mainly purchased by countries having themselves important export trades in ground nuts, and any falling away of the ground nut market, such as was experienced in 1929, is at once reflected in the export of Sierra Leone kolas. The Colony of Nigeria which has only recently begun to purchase kolas from Sierra Leone, is by far the largest customer; of the total amount of 7,005,078 lb. exported in 1929, Nigeria took 3,916,909 lb., the remainder being divided about equally between the Gambia and French Senegal.

Ginger.—After some lean years the market in ginger showed some improvement, with the result that the shipments during the year showed an increase of 50 per cent. over those of the previous year.

Platinum.—The first shipment of platinum was made in December, 1929, when 21 ozs. valued at £218 were sent to the United Kingdom. Work is now proceeding steadily on the platinum fields, and it is hoped that appreciable exports will be made in the near future.

30. The following table summarizes the state of trade in the Colony during the past five years :—

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Year.	Total Imports less Specie.	Re-exports less Specie.	Net Imports.	Exports of the produce and manufactures of the Colony.	Excess of net Imports over Domestic Exports.	Excess of Domestic Exports over net Imports.	Customs Duty on Imports and Exports.	Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1925... ...	1,941,314	160,256	1,781,058	1,627,916	153,142	—	541,575	3,737,084
1926	1,626,041	151,121	1,474,920	1,562,525	—	87,605	454,532	4,058,059
1927	1,880,824	189,982	1,690,842	1,527,077	163,765	—	534,718	4,529,038
1928	1,784,788	162,659	1,622,129	1,609,614	12,515	—	560,352	4,774,831
1929	1,667,252	180,309	1,486,943	1,319,453	167,490	—	508,139	4,812,566

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Direction of Trade.

31. Of the total import trade £977,692 or 54.65 per cent. was from the United Kingdom as compared with £1,239,807 or 60.35 per cent. in 1928. This decrease in British trade was due mainly to the decrease in the imports of cotton goods. The United States of America sent 14.20 per cent. (£253,988), the principal items being tobacco, oil, petrol, lumber and flour. Imports from Germany amounted to 8.15 per cent. (£145,840); France, 5.04 per cent. (£90,224); and foreign West African Possessions 7.08 per cent. (£126,751).

32. Of the gross export trade of £1,532,237, 34.65 per cent. (£531,017) was with the United Kingdom, 29.29 per cent. (£448,750) with Germany, 14.64 per cent. (£224,319) with British West African Possessions, and 7.05 per cent. (£107,797) with Holland.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

33. Although there was a reduction of eight in the total number of steam and motor vessels entering at ports in the Colony during the year the total tonnage shewed an increase of 8,165. Of the 2,400,768 tons entered, 62.04 per cent. were British, 11.2 per cent. German, 10.54 per cent. Dutch and 7.31 per cent. American. The following table gives details of nationality and tonnage entered during the year :—

Nationality.	*Steam and Motor vessels entered.*	
	Number.	*Tonnage.*
American	53	175,532
Belgian	1	73
British...	467	1,489,461
Danish...	2	2,562
Dutch	115	253,140
French...	39	105,842
German	104	268,972
Italian...	14	41,924
Norwegian	11	18,139
Swedish	22	45,123
Total	828	2,400,768

Of the above vessels 21 entered at Sherbro, 29 at Sulima, 3 at Mano Salija, and the remaining 802 at Freetown.

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34. The following Shipping Lines call regularly at Freetown on their way to or from other West African ports :—

Line.	*From*	*Frequency of Calls.*
Barber West Africa ...	New York ...	Every 20 days with general cargo.
	Mexican Gulf (U.S.A. Ports).	Every 6 weeks.
Elder Dempster	United Kingdom Ports.	Passengers three times each month; cargo frequently.
Fabre-Fraissinet ...	Marseilles ...	Monthly.
Holland West Africa ...	Hamburg, Holland, Bordeaux	Passengers monthly; cargo about every 10 days.
Roma	Italy	Cargo once a month.
Woermann	Hamburg, Holland.	Cargo every fortnight, Passengers monthly.

Railways.

35. The total length of open line at the end of 1929 was 332 miles.

The capital expenditure of the railway to the 31st December, 1929, was £1,740,624.

36. The total revenue of the railway was £233,512 which shows a decrease of £24,647, owing to bad trade, on the figure for the previous year.

The revenue includes £1,856 for contributions to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme, etc., and £750 subsidy paid to revenue by the Government for the loss on the working of the mountain railway.

37. The expenditure, other than capital, for the year was £286,843. This total includes £82,612 for loan charges, pensions, and gratuities, cost of services rendered by other Government Departments, and expenses connected with the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme.

38. The receipts per train mile were 11s. 7.13d. and working expenses per train mile 10s. 4.34d. The working expenses include pensions and gratuities, cost of services rendered by other Government Departments, and expenses in connection with the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme.

Passenger journeys in the year were 360,815, a decrease of 243,922 on the previous year, and the tonnage carried was 75,473 tons against 78,385 in 1928. The decrease in the number of passenger

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journeys is due to the closing of the mountain line at the end of February, 1929.

	1913	1927	1928	1929
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
Receipts per train mile ...	9 6·11	10 8·46	11 3·44	11 7·13
Working expenses per train mile.	5 1·09	7 6·80	9 2·55	10 4·34
Passengers carried	438,388	589,898	604,737	360,815
Tonnage carried	62,084	77,060	78,385	75,473

39. The rolling stock in use during the year consisted of 41 locomotives, 85 coaching vehicles, and 348 goods vehicles.

40. *Motor Bus Service.*—The most important event connected with railway activities during the year was the closing of the mountain section and the substitution therefor of a motor bus service, running from Freetown through Wilberforce to Hill Station, and through Congo Town to Lumley. The mountain section of the railway was originally constructed mainly for the conveyance of Government Officials from Hill Station to Freetown; it also conveyed African residents from Wilberforce and market produce from Wilberforce and Lumley. It had always been run at a loss and with the increase in motor traffic was yearly becoming a greater burden on railway resources. The substitution of a motor bus service, which it is hoped hereafter to extend eastwards through Cline Town to Kissy, has effected great economies in this direction; it is gaining in popularity and with the advent of better trade conditions it will no doubt be possible to reap a profit from its activities. The total number of passengers carried during the eleven months it was in operation was 276,848.

Roads.

41. Considerable progress has been made during the past few years in the construction of motor roads in the Protectorate.

At the end of 1927, the total mileage was approximately 250. A further 150 miles were added during 1928, and 140 miles during 1929. The total mileage open for traffic is now 540.

It is hoped during 1930 to add 200 miles of completed road, and by the end of 1931, when the present roads programme should be completed, the total mileage of motor roads in the Protectorate will be approximately 860.

42. The road system in general is designed to furnish feeder roads to the railway, and also, as in the case of the Kambia-Kamakwie road in the Northern Province and most roads in the Southern Province, to provide access to points whence produce may be taken by water transport to the nearest shipping port. Link roads are also provided to enable motor transport vehicles to be moved from one area to another.

The road surfacing is in general of laterite gravel, and only pneumatic tyres are permitted for motor vehicles.

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43. Over the larger rivers, where otherwise long and expensive bridges would be required, the traffic is dealt with by pontoon ferries hauled across by hand. In one case, the crossing over the Sewa River on the Bo-Pujehun Road, a steel pontoon ferry has been installed driven by an outboard motor.

Waterways.

44. There is a considerable mileage of waterways in the Colony and Protectorate, but most of the routes are navigable only by vessels of light draught; they are, however, the means of conveying large quantities of produce to Freetown and Bonthe for shipment. The most important of these are the Bum Kittam, which separates Turner's Peninsula from the mainland in the Southern Province of the Protectorate; this has branches that enable launch communication to be maintained between Bonthe and Sumbuya and Yoni, thus linking up Bonthe with the Protectorate road system at two points; the Port Loko creek which bears all produce from the environs of Port Loko to Freetown; and the river routes from Kambia (on the Great Scarcies River) and Mange (on the Little Scarcies River) in the Northern Province.

Postal.

45. As might be expected in an unfavourable trade year postal business, which has for some years past shown a steady increase, received a set-back. Postal business was conducted, as in 1928, from 22 post offices and 71 postal agencies; money order business from 24 and postal order business from 55 offices.

46. The total revenue collected was £28,063, as against a sum of £31,000 during the previous year. Of this total a sum of £15,160 was received in direct postal revenue, £9,112 was collected in respect of Customs duty on parcels, and £3,179 from the sale of stamps for revenue purposes.

47. The total number of articles passing through the Post Office during the year showed a slight increase, being estimated at 2,096,664 as compared with 2,012,559 in 1928. Of this figure 113,103 were registered articles.

48. Money order transactions decreased from 6,306 (amounting in value to £53,086) in 1928 to 5,671 (value £46,533) in 1929.

The number and value of postal orders issued during the year (58,845 and £40,219) and also the number and value of postal orders paid (47,059 and £33,604) showed decreases on the corresponding figures for the previous year which were postal orders issued 61,305 and £42,407, postal orders paid 48,059 and £34,407.

The parcel post transactions showed a similar falling off, 46,681 parcels being handled as against 51,563 during the previous year. The cash-on-delivery parcels service also showed a slight decrease for the first time since its inception.

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Cables and Wireless.

49. The Eastern Telegraph Company maintains a cable office and a low power wireless station in Freetown ; the latter is used mainly for communicating with shipping. A cable (which forms part of the telegraph system referred to below) connects the island of Sherbro with the mainland.

Increase in the knowledge of wireless telegraphy and recent improvement in the manufacture of wireless installations of moderate cost have led to large numbers of applications on the part of private individuals for licences under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance, 1924, and the holders of such licences have little difficulty in picking up any station in Europe and America broadcasting on suitable short wave lengths.

Telegraphs.

50. The internal telegraph system is maintained by the railway. The main system runs from Freetown to Pendembu (the eastern terminus of the railway, 227½ miles from Freetown) with transmitting stations at Bauya and Bo ; this system is connected up by branches with most of the District Headquarters in the Protectorate.

Telephones.

51. There are no privately-owned telephone services, the only service (that in Freetown and district) being maintained by the Railway Department.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

52. The Courts of the Colony consist of the Courts of the Tribal Rulers, the Police Court of Freetown, the Freetown Court of Requests, the Courts of the District Commissioners of the Sherbro and Headquarters Judicial Districts, and the Courts of Requests of those Districts, the Coroners' Courts, the Supreme Court in its Summary Jurisdiction, and the Supreme Court in its Ordinary Jurisdiction.

The Courts of the Protectorate consist of the Courts of the Native Chiefs, the Combined Courts, the Courts of the District Commissioners, and the Circuit Court of the Protectorate.

Having appellate jurisdiction over the decisions of both the Supreme Court of the Colony and the Circuit Court of the Protectorate are the West African Court of Appeal and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

53. The establishment of the West African Court of Appeal was a highly important measure brought into effect during the year under review. Provision was made for the constitution of this Court in an Order by His Majesty the King in Council dated the 1st November, 1928. This Order was implemented by Ordinances

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Nos. 9, 10, and 29 of 1929 of the Legislature of this Colony. The Court has both civil and criminal jurisdiction in appeal cases arising in the Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, and the Gambia ; its Judges consist of the Judges of the Supreme Courts of those Colonies together with the Judges of the Supreme Court of Nigeria, the President of the Court being the Chief Justice of the Gold Coast. The Court sits at Accra for the hearing of cases sent up from the Supreme and Circuit Courts of the Gold Coast and at Freetown for those sent up from the Supreme and Circuit Courts of Sierra Leone and the Supreme Court of the Gambia.

Police.

54. The Police Force operates only in the Colony proper (the Freetown Police District, and the Headquarters Judicial District). The figures that follow, therefore, relate only to crimes reported in those localities. Figures relating to crime in the Protectorate are given under " Court Messengers " (*vide* Paragraph 58).

55. The health of the Police Force continued to be satisfactory ; during the month of June, 1929, the Force was moved into newly constructed barracks at King Tom and it is hoped that the provision of adequate modern accommodation will still further improve the general health of the Force.

56. A good standard of discipline has been maintained ; no case of bribery or corruption was brought to notice, three constables were sent to prison and dismissed, and six were dismissed. There was only one case of drunkenness reported throughout the year.

57. There was a further slight diminution in crime, as may be seen from the following table :—

Year.	*Cases Reported.*	*Arrests made.*	*Convictions.*	*Per cent.*
1927 ...	2,209	2,259	1,815	80.3
1928 ...	1,782	1,935	1,498	77.4
1929 ...	1,634	1,893	1,505	79.4

The number of serious crimes reported in the Colony is as follows :

	1928.	1929.
Murder	1	—
Manslaughter	3	2
Housebreaking	—	5
Burglary	7	3
Shopbreaking	—	3
Larceny	328	405
Receiving	21	16

Court Messengers.

58. Police work in the Protectorate is performed by a force of Court Messengers working under the direction of the Political

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Officers. They also act as escorts for Political Officers and guards on specie and stores, etc. The total number of Court Messengers employed is 386.

The number of serious crimes tried in the Circuit Court of the Protectorate is as follows :—

	1928.	1929.
Murder	5	10
Rape	—	1
Arson	1	3
Burglary	2	7
Housebreaking	—	4
Shopbreaking	—	3

Prisons.

59. The number of persons committed to the Freetown Prison during 1928 and 1929 was as follows :—

	1928.	1929.
Males	723	819
Females	10	18
Juveniles	22	16
Total	755	853

The daily average number of prisoners in custody at the Freetown Prison during the year 1929 was Males 241, Females 2.

The number of prisoners committed to the Protectorate gaols (*i.e.* at Pujehun, Kenema, Moyamba, and Batkanu) in 1929 was 795 as compared with 876 during the previous year. The daily average number in custody was 151.

A serious outbreak of dysentery followed by beri-beri occurred at the Freetown Prison during the month of March. A close enquiry into the origin of this outbreak was made by the Government Pathologist and a Medical Officer attached to the Sir Alfred Jones Research Laboratory and a report has been issued. At all other prisons the health of the inmates was good.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

60. Several public works of considerable importance were undertaken during the year, among these the more noteworthy were the following :—

Court Messengers' Barracks, District Commissioner's Office, and Clerks' Quarters, Kailahun.

This work was necessitated by the removal of the headquarters of the Pendembu District from Pendembu to the more healthy and, in many ways, more convenient locality of Kailahun. This work

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was also the beginning of a scheme for the substitution of permanent quarters for Court Messengers, in place of the unsatisfactory mud huts hitherto provided, throughout the Protectorate.

New Police Barracks, Freetown.

The old barracks, erected originally for the now disbanded Sierra Leone Mountain Gunners, were obsolete, inconvenient and unhealthy. The erection of new barracks should have a beneficial effect on the morale and health of the Police Force.

New Public Offices, Bonthe.

The offices at Bonthe have for many years been unsatisfactory ; the new offices will greatly facilitate the work of a busy port.

Agricultural Offices, Laboratories, etc., and five Bungalows at Njala.

This work was necessitated by the transfer of the headquarters of the Agricultural Department from Freetown to Njala where its principal experimental work has in the past been conducted.

Nursing Sisters' Quarters, Connaught Hospital.

The European Nursing Sisters attached to the Connaught Hospital have in the past been unsatisfactorily housed in old buildings of native construction.

Workshops, Prince of Wales' School, Freetown.

This work was undertaken in consonance with the decision to broaden the basis of the school's activities by including in its curriculum the teaching of various handicrafts.

Medical Officer's Quarters, Makeni.

Makeni is a steadily growing town and the increasing need for permanent accommodation for the Medical Officer has now been met.

Extension to the Electric Power Station, Freetown.

As originally planned the power station has proved to be insufficient to supply the present needs and potential requirements of Freetown ; an additional, and larger, engine has therefore been purchased and is being installed in the extended station.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Hospitals and Asylums.

61. *European Hospital, Hill Station.*—There has been a considerable reduction in numbers admitted compared with 1928, more marked in Government officials than non-officials. In 1929 the number of cases admitted was 138 (54 of whom were Government officials) as against 163 (with 70 officials) in 1928.

62. *Connaught Hospital, Freetown.*—The new surgical wards containing 52 beds were opened on the return of the Surgical

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Specialist from leave at the end of August, and are being used to full capacity. That there was urgent need for these wards is shewn in the increase of 240 cases admitted, exclusive of the maternity section. The maternity section also shews a steadily growing appreciation on the part of the public. In 1929 there were 2,228 admissions and 353 in the maternity section as compared with 1,945 admissions and 311 in the maternity section in 1928.

63. The out-patient department has been kept busy, with a large increase in subsequent attendances.

	New cases.	*Subsequent attendances.*
1928	13,864	47,040
1929	14,265	59,441
Venereal Diseases Clinic.	596	1,209

64. *Sherbro Hospital, Bonthe.*—This institution continues to do useful work. 439 cases were admitted during the year. Out-patients numbered 3,965 with 16,817 subsequent attendances.

65. *Protectorate Hospital, Bo, Central Province.*—This hospital has now completed its second year, and the Medical Officer reports increasing numbers of patients from the surrounding districts, some coming from a considerable distance.

In-patients, 141 ; Out-patients (new cases), 3,387 ; subsequent attendances, 4,197.

66. *Protectorate Hospital, Makeni, Northern Province.*—This is the second Protectorate type hospital to be completed, and it is much appreciated by the population of the district. The work done in its first year is greater than that of Bo in its second, and extension is already asked for.

In-patients, 152 ; Out-patients (new cases), 3,981 ; subsequent attendances, 11,817.

67. *Mission Hospitals.*—There are two hospitals at Kamabai, Northern Province, and Jaiama (Kono), Central Province, assisted by a grant-in-aid from the Government. These hospitals are managed by American doctors, assisted by American registered nurses. Large numbers of natives come to them for treatment, and they are doing very useful work.

68. *Mental Hospital, Kissy.*—The accommodation has been improved by a wall dividing the male section, so that the quiet patients may be segregated from the noisy and troublesome. The number of inmates remains fairly constantly in the vicinity of 100 ; there were 106 inmates on the 1st January and 111 at the end of the year.

69. *The Kissy Infirmaries.*—These institutions house a number of aged and infirm people, chiefly derelicts and incurables. They are always filled to capacity, particularly the male infirmary, and owing to the influx of Protectorate labour, the latter is likely to

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require extension in the near future. The number of inmates is usually between 70 and 80.

Population, Birth-Rate, Death-Rate, and Infantile Mortality.

70. The following table gives the figures for the year :—

	Population, 1921 *Census.*	*Birth-rate per* 1,000.	*Death-rate per* 1,000.	*Infantile Mortality per* 1,000 *births.*
Freetown ...	44,142	24.8	32.8	319
Colony (other than Freetown).	41,021	22.6	24.5	266

Owing to the non-registration of many births, the " available " birth-rate is undoubtedly much below the actual birth-rate, and for this reason the infantile mortality rate (which is the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 registered births) appears a good deal higher than it actually is. It is, nevertheless, excessively high, and with a view to reducing it, infant welfare work is being undertaken on an increasing scale. According to the 1921 Census, the males exceeded females by 28.5 per cent. and 24.3 per cent. in Freetown and the rest of the Colony respectively. This is an additional factor in producing the low birth-rate.

71. Owing to the fact that the last Census was taken in 1921, there is probably a considerable error in the population figure. There is no means of correcting this since methods of estimation employed elsewhere are inapplicable here owing to movement of population.

Sanitation.

72. The port of Freetown was never in quarantine during the year. Owing to the existence of yellow fever or plague in several West African Colonies, both to the north and south of Sierra Leone, port health work continued to be heavy. Practically all ships arriving in Freetown harbour were visited by the Medical Officer of Health. Passengers arriving from infected ports were kept under strict surveillance and, where necessary, their baggage was disinfected.

Both Colony and Protectorate remained free from epidemic and disease.

Pneumonia and bronchitis have an appreciable effect on the death-rate, especially in the early months of the year when the dry north-east wind (Harmattan) prevails.

73. The Superintendent of the Freetown Waterworks reports that there was an acute shortage of water during the year, the most acute since the inauguration of the Freetown Waterworks in 1902. The shortage of water lasted from the 22nd March to the 24th May, and was by no means local as the drought seemed to be rather widespread.

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The total consumption for all purposes was 168,561,000 gallons, including 3,276,000 gallons supplied to shipping.

74. *Record of Vaccinations performed* :—

	1928.	1929.
Number vaccinated	13,953	10,909
,, successful	8,417	7,041
,, unsuccessful	2,609	1,730
,, not inspected	2,927	2,138

Climate.

75. The climate of Sierra Leone is tropical, with a heavy rainfall and high atmospheric humidity during the greater part of the year. The shade temperature rarely falls below 70 degrees. On the other hand, the shade temperature, even in the dry season, rarely rises above 95 degrees, and there is always a sufficient daily range of temperature to render the mornings and evenings relatively cool. There are four months of very dry weather, when little or no rain falls, and four months of varying conditions, with a moderate rainfall for a tropical country. There is a single rainy season lasting roughly from May to the end of October. This occurs during the period of the south-west monsoon. It is preceded and followed by a period of thunderstorms, known as tornadoes, which travel from east to west. In August there is sometimes a slight break in the rains.

In December and January, Sierra Leone comes into the region of the north-east "Trades" and the resultant wind, known as the "Harmattan," blows from N.N.E. It is an exceedingly dry wind, and it is accompanied by a thick haze, probably composed of minute particles of dust. During this period there are cool nights and hot days, and the maximum diurnal variations are registered. The lowest mean temperatures are usually recorded in the months of July and August.

July, August and September are the months of the heaviest rainfall. The rainfall is highest on the coast, decreasing gradually inland. Rainfall records, taken in Freetown (Tower Hill) 180 feet above sea-level, for the past 48 years indicate a decrease in the rainfall, which is said to be common to the whole of West Africa and the neighbouring islands. From 1882 to 1891 the average was 166.07, while from 1912 to 1921 it was 122.66, but the average of the last years is considerably above the latter figure.

The highest rainfall recorded was 204.19 inches in 1883, and the lowest 102.34 inches in 1914.

The rainfall in Freetown in 1929 was 155.15 inches. The highest rainfall recorded in any one day during the year was 7.02 inches on the 25th July. The lowest temperature recorded at the Tower Hill Observatory was 68 degrees on the 11th January and 3rd November; the highest, 93 degrees, on the 31st March.

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IX.—EDUCATION.

76. Following upon the important changes connected with the amalgamation of the Missions' primary schools with re-grouping of standards, etc., which took place in 1928, a new Education Ordinance was passed during 1929 providing a complete Code for all Colony schools. Special provision was made for the payment of grants to secondary school teachers and increased assistance was provided for domestic science. At the present time all boys' schools in the Colony are conducted by Churches or Missions, with three exceptions, viz., the Model School (Primary), the Prince of Wales' School (Secondary) and the Sir Alfred Jones Trade School ; these are under Government management.

77. In the Colony there are at present 49 assisted primary schools (including the Model School) with 6,407 pupils on the rolls and an average daily attendance of 4,591. The secondary schools (which in some cases provide primary and preparatory education as well as secondary) may be summarized as follows :—

Boys.—6 schools with 40 primary, 197 preparatory, and 477 secondary pupils (a total of 714 pupils).

Girls.—6 schools with 206 primary, 333 preparatory, and 158 secondary pupils (a total of 697 pupils).

The Prince of Wales' School, established by the Government in 1925, makes special provision for the teaching of science and is liberally equipped with science laboratories and apparatus. During the year under review the curriculum was further extended by the inclusion of technical studies, well-equipped shops having been erected for wood and metal work.

There are three schools providing for the education of boys in trade preparation work, the Albert Academy (carpentry and printing), the Church of England Technical School (carpentry and theoretical building construction), and the Sir Alfred Jones Trade School (carpentry).

In connection with the education of girls, domestic science is rapidly gaining ground and is being recognised as a valuable part of the curriculum. Training for Nurses is given both at the Connaught Hospital and at the Princess Christian Mission Hospital.

A Lady Medical Officer of the Government visits the schools and conducts clinics for children needing medical attention.

Higher education for boys (including a scheme for teacher training, assisted and partially controlled by Government) is furnished at Fourah Bay College, a missionary undertaking affiliated to Durham University. An arts course and a theological course are provided and a beginning has recently been made with a science course. Pass Degrees are awarded.

There is also a scheme for training of women teachers at the Wesleyan Girls' School, Wilberforce, near Freetown. This, like the

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scheme for boys at Fourah Bay College, is financed and largely controlled by Government.

78. In the Protectorate the Government controls 11 schools with 680 pupils (boys). These, with the exception of Bo School, and the Protectorate Central College at Koyeima, are rural schools of junior primary grade.

Bo School has existed for the past 25 years for the education of the sons and nominees of Paramount Chiefs. Until 1929 it was a separate institution having no connection with the Education Department, but in that year it was transferred to the Department. It aims at providing for the boys a sound education with preparation for the important work they will probably be called upon to undertake in connection with their Chiefdoms.

Until 1929 nothing higher than standard VII education had been attempted in the Protectorate, but the Government has now established a Central Protectorate College at Koyeima, the nucleus of its pupils being drawn from the old Agricultural College at Njala. The intention is to build up an educational centre for the Protectorate with a College for Higher Education, Teacher Training and Technical Instruction.

In the Protectorate also 11 Missionary Societies conduct 76 assisted schools, with 3,853 boys and 958 girls on the rolls, and 69 unassisted schools with an estimated total of 1,700 pupils. Proposals for reorganization of the system of education at these schools, in conjunction with the Protectorate College and other Government schools, have been put forward for consideration; but no radical change has yet been made, pending actual experience of the changes effected in the Government schools and of the new undertaking at Koyeima.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

Survey Department.

79. *Topographical Branch.*—Excellent progress was made in horizontal framework construction, 42 points being fixed during the year by astronomical observation and the reception of wireless time signals. The total number of points fixed at the end of the year amounted to 111. A further 11 fixings will suffice for the completion of this framework.

The vertical framework was completed during the year. This consists in all of approximately 1,670 miles of levels, of which about 1,200 miles have been executed by the Topographical Branch since it commenced operations towards the end of 1925. Some 330 miles were obtained from the railway and 140 miles from the Public Works Department.

By the end of 1928, approximately 17,000 square miles of territory had been surveyed in detail. The area remaining to be dealt with during the period 1st January, 1929, to 30th June, 1930, was

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estimated at 11,000 square miles. Of this area fully 7,000 square miles were surveyed during the year. No great difficulty should be experienced in completing the work during the first six months of 1930.

Twenty-four sheets of the " one inch " topographical map have now been published. Sixteen sheets were despatched to Accra during the year for reproduction.

The largest staff of surveyors in the field at any one time amounted to 5 Europeans and 24 Africans.

80. *Cadastral Branch.*—The work carried out by the Cadastral Branch during the year may be divided into two main categories, namely revenue surveys and Government surveys.

The majority of the revenue surveys carried out were those of areas over which applications for Exclusive Prospecting Licences had been received by Government. 31 of such surveys were executed. The revenue derived amounted to slightly over £1,800, of which some £1,150 had been collected before the end of the year. All surveyed areas have been very thoroughly beaconed.

The Government surveys consisted chiefly in the " breaking down " of the triangulation in the western coastal region of the Colony. An additional officer was appointed for this work and arrived early in September. During the last four months of the year 4 secondary and 28 tertiary points were observed and computed. A considerable amount of useful work was also carried out in the neighbourhood of the Kissy flats and at Songo.

81. *Survey School.*—The Survey School at Kortright finally closed during October, the Instructor proceeding on leave prior to transfer to the Gold Coast. This school, which was in being for about four years, accomplished the work for which it was instituted. That work was the training of an adequate number of young Africans for the carrying out of topographical survey of the Protectorate. 24 pupils passed through the school, the course of training lasting in all for three years. But for this establishment the topographical survey within the time and at the cost previously fixed could not have been accomplished.

82. *Lands Branch.*—Steady progress has been made during the year. The Register of Land Transactions is now practically complete and the branch will be in a position to take over the various documents as soon as a satisfactory record store is provided.

All the usual work of the branch—e.g., acquisitions, leases, claims, etc.—has been carried out satisfactorily, but calls for no special comment in this brief report.

Geological Department.

83. During 1929 the Department actively continued the investigation of the geology and mineral resources of the Colony and Protectorate.

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Reconnaissances were made in all three Provinces and certain areas, namely, the Kambui Hills and the Kangari Hills in the Central Province, the Sula Hills in the Northern Province, and the hills of the Colony, were mapped and prospected in somewhat greater detail. Field work has advanced sufficiently far to permit of the publication of a provisional geological map of Sierra Leone.

During the rainy season the field officers were engaged in research work at the Imperial College of Science, London. Numbers of rocks were sliced and examined microscopically and a few of the more typical rocks were analysed. A large collection of concentrates from stream gravels was also carefully examined.

The Director attended the Fifteenth International Geological Congress held in South Africa in July and August, 1929, as the delegate of the Government.

84. The Mines Section of the Department was kept busy throughout the year. Details are given in another section of the Mining Titles issued, and applied for, and of the present state of mineral development (*vide* paragraphs 22–24).

Legislation was passed covering the use of explosives, licences to purchase minerals and the survey of exclusive prospecting licences.

85. Towards the end of 1929 mining operations were commenced on the rich alluvial platinum deposits in the Big Water near York. A good deal of the platinum is coarse and angular and is obviously of very local origin. The platinum is associated with black sand which is essentially ilmenite.

86. The auriferous belt of rocks in the Northern and Central Provinces was traced to the north and south and was found to be nearly 90 miles long. Further discoveries of alluvial gold were made and one of these new prospects is now being developed and will soon reach the producing stage.

87. Deposits of chromite were found near Lago and Jalahun in the Central Province and near Tuba in the Southern Province.

In the Lago area the chromite occurs as large lenses in serpentine and talcose rocks and is exposed at intervals over a length of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Several assays show that the content of chromium sesqui-oxide (Cr_2O_3) averages about 45 per cent.

Assays of the chromite from Jalahun, Niawa Chiefdom, show from 31 per cent. to 44 per cent. Cr_2O_3, and an average of 36.4 per cent. Cr_2O_3.

The Tuba deposits are situated about 30 miles from the sea coast. Three preliminary assays of surface samples show from 30.9 per cent. to 34.6 per cent. Cr_2O_3 and indicate that the deposit is low grade.

88. Large deposits of ilmenite occur in the Colony in the vicinity of the port of Freetown. Assays of massive ilmenite from bedded deposits near Hastings and Waterloo show from 42 per cent. to

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50 per cent. titanium dioxide (TiO_2), and samples of crude black sand obtained by panning the alluvial deposits in five different localities assayed from 46.8 per cent. to 52.9 per cent. TiO_2 with an average of 50.3 per cent. TiO_2.

89. Extensive deposits of high grade iron ore were discovered in the Koinadugu District near Sakasakala, Keimadugu, and Sokoya. Assays of picked samples shew an average of 62.4 per cent. iron, 0.85 per cent. silica, 0.010 per cent. phosphorus, and 0.148 per cent. sulphur. A bulk sample taken over a width of 1,000 feet across the strike near Sakasakala assayed 55.94 per cent. iron, 3.03 per cent. silica, 0.096 per cent. phosphorus, and 0.05 per cent. sulphur.

90. Recent field work indicates the existence of deposits of corundum in many places in Sierra Leone. Most of the known deposits are alluvial and no attempt has yet been made to find the source of the corundum. In at least two of the occurrences the corundum is so heavily concentrated that it must be of very local origin.

A deposit of alluvial crystal corundum containing crystals up to at least $2\frac{1}{4}$ lb. in weight occurs near Kondemnia. A deposit of emery was found in the same district.

XI.—LABOUR.

91. Unskilled labour in the Colony and Protectorate is readily available, the wages paid averaging about 1s. per diem. The demand for skilled labour, varying in accordance with prevailing trade conditions, is met by artisans trained by various Government departments and missions.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

92. Thirty Ordinances were enacted during the year 1929. Of these, 25 either amended or repealed existing measures, two dealt with supply and the three remaining Ordinances relate to matters which had not previously formed the subject of legislation :—

The three latter Ordinances were :—

(*a*) The Freetown Municipality Officers' Superannuation Ordinance (No. 8) which provides for the payment of superannuation allowances and gratuities to persons employed by the City Council of Freetown.

(*b*) The West African Court of Appeal (Criminal Cases) Ordinance (No. 10), which provides for the creation of a Court to hear appeals from convictions by or in the Supreme Court or the Circuit Court; this Ordinance came into force by Proclamation on the 10th March, 1930.

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(*c*) The Auditor Pensions Ordinance (No. 19), which provides for the payment of pensions to certain officers formerly in the service of the Government of the Colony as Auditor and Assistant Auditor.

The principal amending Ordinances passed were the following :—

(*a*) The West African Court of Appeal (Civil Cases) Ordinance (No. 9), which provides for the creation of a Court to hear appeals in civil cases from the Supreme Court and the Circuit Court, in accordance with the provisions of the West African Court of Appeal Order in Council, 1928. This Ordinance is to be read and construed as one with the Supreme Court Ordinance, 1924, Part XI of which it repeals. The Ordinance was slightly amended by the West African Court of Appeal (Civil Cases) (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 29).

(*b*) The Public Transport Services (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 13), the main object of which is to enable the General Manager of the Railway to sue and to be sued in respect of breaches of contract occurring in connection with the business of the Public Transport Services.

(*c*) The Coroners (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 14), which reduces the demands upon persons qualified to serve as jurors by providing that the Coroner shall hold an " enquiry " instead of an " inquest " except in certain specified cases. The Ordinance also adopts the provisions of the law in force in England with regard to viewing the body.

(*d*) The Forestry (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 16), which allows clearances to be made in forest reserves and restricted areas for the purposes of mining and widening of roads, surveying, and obtaining supplies of water.

(*e*) The Interpretation (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 20), which provides that the titles " Sanitary Department " and " Sanitary Service " should be altered to " Health Department " and " Health Service " respectively, and that a similar change should be made in the titles of members of the West African Medical Staff who are engaged on sanitary work.

(*f*) The Trade Marks (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 26), which (1) facilitates the registration in the Colony of trade marks registered in the United Kingdom at any time during the continuance of registration there and (2) makes the continuance of such registration in the Colony dependent on the continuance of registration in the United Kingdom.

(*g*) The Births and Deaths Registration (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 28), which provides for the transfer of the duties of the Registrar-General of Births and Deaths to the Deputy Director of the Health Service as Chief Registrar of

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Births and Deaths, and enables a gradual extension of the practice of registering births and deaths to be made in the Protectorate.

(*h*) The Education Ordinance (No. 30), which repeals and replaces the Education Ordinance, 1924, provides for the creation of a Board of Education to supervise education in the Colony and Protectorate and for the appointment by the Board of two sub-committees, one for the Colony and one for the Protectorate. The Governor in Council is empowered, on the recommendation of the Board, to make rules for the purpose of regulating the procedure of the Board and its sub-committees and with respect to education in the Colony and Protectorate. Rules for these purposes, for the Colony, have been made and are contained in the First Schedule to the Ordinance. Rules for the Protectorate have not yet been made.

One hundred subordinate legislative measures were also enacted.

Banks.

93. There are two banks—the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), Limited—both with headquarters in Freetown. The former has a branch at Sherbro and agencies at the more important trade centres in the Protectorate. The Government has accounts at both banks.

Each bank has a savings bank branch which forms an important part of its business and materially affects the transactions of the Government Savings Bank.

Post Office Savings Bank.

94. The deposits numbered 12,353 of the value of £28,233 16s. 2d. as compared with 11,634, value £29,154 19s. 1d. in 1928.

Withdrawals totalled 8,359 and amounted to £31,062 11s. 10d. as against 7,387 value £30,227 9s. 0d. in the previous year.

The average value of each deposit was £2 5s. 9d. and of each withdrawal £3 14s. 3d. as compared with £2 10s. 1d. and £4 1s. 10d. in 1928.

95. During the year, 2,056 accounts were opened and 1,521 closed; the corresponding figures for 1928 were 1,887 and 1,333.

At the end of the year there were 7,499 depositors on the books, and the amount standing to their credit was £63,041 12s. 3½d., an increase of 535 accounts and a decrease in value of £1,368 13s. 3d. The average value of each account was £8 8s. 2d. as against £9 5s. 0d. The total sum invested was £61,682 18s. 8d. The dividends received on investments amounted to £2,342 5s. 3d. and the interest capitalized and credited to depositors was £1,425 4s. 1d.

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XIII.—IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

Plant and Animal Products.

96. During 1929 the following investigations and enquiries were carried out for Sierra Leone.

Coir.—Samples of coir prepared in the Bonthe District from two types of coconut were received from the Director of Agriculture. The samples were uneven in colour, length, and fineness, somewhat dusty, and contained pieces of non-disintegrated husk. The fibre was however on the whole of good length and strength, and contained a good proportion of bristle fibre (i.e., fibre over 9 inches long). Owing to the crude character of the samples they were regarded by merchants as unsaleable on the London market, and it was suggested by the Imperial Institute that further samples, graded in the same manner as reference specimens furnished by the merchants, should be prepared and forwarded for examination and valuation.

97. *Palm Kernels.*—Information was furnished to the Director of Agriculture regarding methods employed in the drying of palm kernels in Malaya and the Dutch East Indies, and as to plant suitable for use in Sierra Leone for the drying of palm kernels and other tropical products.

98. *Piassava fibre.*—Arising out of the Inspection of Produce Ordinance in Sierra Leone which requires that only piassava fibre which reaches a specified quality shall be exported, enquiries were made by the Imperial Institute in the United Kingdom and on the Continent regarding a machine to clean the fibre. No suitable machine was found to be available for this purpose, but names of firms who were willing to consider designing a machine to meet the requirements called for were transmitted to the Director of Agriculture, together with suggestions as to the possibility of hand-cleaning the fibre.

99. *Citrus Products.*—In connection with an enquiry conducted by the Empire Marketing Board regarding the possibilities of the citrus industry in Sierra Leone, a list of names of firms likely to be interested in the extension of lime and lemon cultivation in the Colony was suggested to the Board.

100. *Soya Beans.*—Information was furnished to a representative of the Department of Agriculture as to the possibility of producing soya beans in Sierra Leone for export to the United Kingdom. It was suggested that a trial consignment should be forwarded to the Imperial Institute with a view to commercial report and valuation.

101. *Vegetable drugs and poisonous plants.*—In connection with an enquiry which is being undertaken by an officer of the Medical and Sanitary Department, information was furnished regarding West African vegetable drugs and poisonous plants which had been examined at the Imperial Institute.

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102. *Publications.*—The following articles of special interest to Sierra Leone were published during the year in the " Bulletin of the Imperial Institute " :—

Citrus Products.
The Transportation of Vegetable Oils in Bulk.
Recent Research on Empire Products.
Bibliography (Plant and Animal Products).

Mineral Resources.

103. During the year 1929 the following investigations and inquiries were carried out for Sierra Leone.

Brown Coal.—A sample of lignite, received from the Sierra Leone Branch of commercial organization, was found to have a calorific value of 3,850 calories, and to contain about 5 per cent. of sulphur. A yield of crude oil about 21 gallons per ton was obtained on distillation. The material was on the whole inferior to good-quality Nigerian lignite. The names of firms who would be capable of undertaking briquetting trials with this lignite were suggested.

104. *Corundum.*—A sample received for examination from a private firm proved to be of good quality and readily marketable in the United Kingdom at £13 10s. 0d. per ton.

105. *Marampa Iron Ore.*—The Colonial Development Advisory Committee, in connection with an application for assistance from the Colonial Development Fund, wished to have the opinion of the Imperial Institute Mineral Resources Department on a record of assays of iron ore from Marampa, and a statement was accordingly sent giving the desired criticism.

106. *Platinum.*—An inquiry was received, and details were supplied, regarding the conditions under which licences to prospect for platinum in Sierra Leone could be obtained.

107. *New uses and prospective development of uses for chromite.*—An inquirer asked regarding new uses for chromite in view of its possible occurrence in paying quantities in Sierra Leone. Information was given and recent literature shown to him.

108. *Corundum, rutile and ilmenite.*—Copies of comprehensive statements on the occurrences and utilization of corundum, rutile and ilmenite referred to in the Annual Report of the Institute for 1928 were supplied to an inquirer.

109. *Publications.*—During the year special reports on the research work on minerals carried out in Sierra Leone were supplied by the Director of the Geological Survey, and published in the Bulletin of the Imperial Institute No. 2.

Public Exhibition Galleries. Sierra Leone Court.

110. The exhibits have been overhauled and relabelled and statistical charts and maps of distribution added to the more important commercial products.

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A selection of exhibits with showcase and containers and the panorama of Freetown Harbour were lent to the Exhibition Commissioner for the Sierra Leone section of the British Industries Fair. At the close of the Fair a number of samples of products were handed over for use in the Court and these have been used to replace deteriorated samples.

Enlarged photographs to illustrate crops have been prepared from negatives placed at the disposal of the Institute by the Exhibition Commissioner. Five transparencies have been made from photographs supplied by Mr. M. T. Dawe, O.B.E., and fixed in the windows of the Court.

A loan collection of exhibits illustrating the oil palm and piassava industries was lent for a special exhibition which was held at Croydon by the Church Missionary Society.

Progress with the Ginger Panorama has not been possible during the year owing to pressure of work in the studio.

Lectures to organized parties from schools have been continued, also the distribution of literature and post cards relating to Sierra Leone.

Nearly 400,000 persons visited the Exhibition Galleries during the year.

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APPENDIX.

LIST OF CERTAIN PUBLICATIONS OBTAINABLE FROM THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, MILLBANK, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, S.W.1, AND FROM THE GOVERNMENT STATIONERY STORE, FREETOWN.

	Price. £ s. d.	*Postage.* £ s. d.
1. Royal Gazette, per copy	0 0 6	—
2. Royal Gazette, subscription per annum	1 5 0	0 4 4
3. Revised Laws, Vols. I, II, and III, half pigskin ...	7 7 0	*0 3 3†
4. Revised Laws, Vols. I, II, and III, buckram	6 6 0	*0 3 3†
5. Revised Laws, separate Vols., half pigskin, each ...	2 9 0	*0 1 3§
6. Revised Laws, separate Vols., buckram	2 2 0	*0 1 3§
7. Revised Laws, Protectorate Vols.	1 10 0	*0 1 3‡
8. Revised Laws, Customs and Trade Vol.	1 0 0	0 0 8
9. Law Reports	1 0 0	0 0 5
10. Rules of Supreme Court, cloth	0 3 10	0 0 6
11. Rules of Supreme Court, half calf	0 5 4	0 0 7
12. Ordinances, etc., unbound, 1*d.* a leaf, but not less than, per copy	0 0 4	0 0 1
13. Ordinances, bound volume	0 8 6	0 0 5
14. Blue Book	0 12 6	0 1 4
15. Customs Trade Report	0 5 0	0 0 5
16. Trade Supplement to Royal Gazette	0 0 3	0 0 1
17. Customs Tariff, Rents, Fees, etc.	0 0 6	0 0 1
18. Governor's Address on the Estimates	0 1 0	0 0 1
19. Legislative Council Debates, No. 1 of any year ...	0 1 6	0 0 2½
20. Legislative Council Debates, subsequent Nos. each ...	0 0 6	0 0 2
21. The Handbook of Sierra Leone	0 10 6	0 0 8
22. Bibliography of Sierra Leone	0 8 6	0 0 4
23. Report of the Fishery Resources of Sierra Leone ...	0 1 6	0 0 2
24. Handbook on the Tsetse Fly (Austen)	0 5 0	0 0 6
25. Report of Temne Speaking Peoples	0 4 0	0 0 5
26. Specimen of Languages	0 4 0	0 0 3
27. Handbook of the Temne Language	0 5 0	0 0 3½
28. Handbook of the Sherbro Language	0 10 6	0 0 3
29. Mende Language	0 9 0	0 0 6

* Inland Parcel Post. Imperial or Foreign Parcel Post at the rates for †22 lb.; § 7 lb.; ‡ 5 lb.

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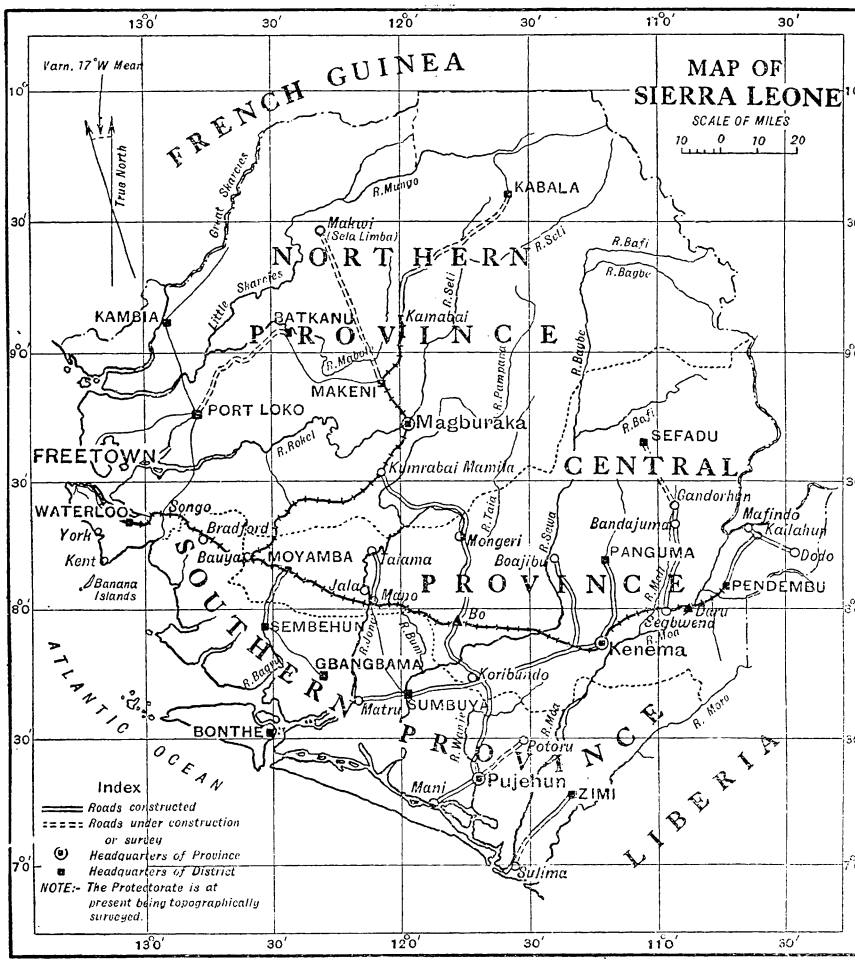

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

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BAHAMAS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1929.

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I.—HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

1. The Colony of the Bahamas consists of an archipelago of islands, "cays" and rocks lying to the east of Florida and the north of Cuba. They lie along two great banks of unequal size called the Little Bahama Bank and the Great Bahama Bank.

2. The Little Bahama Bank, which is the more northerly of the two, begins at the Matanilla Reef opposite the east coast of Florida and distant about 70 miles from Palm Beach, one of the principal watering places of that State. This Bank contains only two large islands, Grand Bahama and Abaco, but there is a large number of small cays fringing the northern shores of both these islands.

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3. To the south of the Little Bahama Bank and separated from it by the North-West and North-East Providence Channels is the Great Bahama Bank, on which most of the islands of the Bahamas lie. To the westward is a line of cays, of which the principal is Bimini, extending along the eastern extremity of the Gulf Stream. Bimini is only fifty miles from Miami in Florida. South-east of Bimini is Andros which, although generally spoken of as one island, is in reality a small archipelago in itself, about 95 miles long with an extreme breadth of 38 miles. Andros is intersected at several points by shallow waterways which permit of navigation through the island, from shore to shore, by vessels of small draught. East of Andros is New Providence, which, although by no means the largest, is the most important of the islands, having the capital, and the chief port, Nassau, and fully a quarter of the total population of the Colony. East again of New Providence lies Eleuthera, with Harbour Island close to its northern shores. On Harbour Island the first settlement was colonized by the Adventurers who founded the present Colony. The chain is continued south-east of Eleuthera by Cat Island, San Salvador (or Watling), the first landfall of Columbus in the New World, Exuma, Long Island, Rum Cay, the Fortune Island group (which includes Crooked Island, Acklin's Island, and Long Cay), Mayaguana and Inagua.

4. Eastwards of Inagua lie the Turks and Caicos Islands which, although geographically part of the Bahamas, were separated from them politically in 1848 and now form a Dependency of Jamaica.

5. In addition to the islands mentioned there are numerous cays and rocks, the total area of the Colony being about 4,400 square miles or one-half the size of Wales. It is said that there are about 700 islands and over 2,000 rocks. The islands are, as a rule, long, narrow and low-lying. The ground is very rocky, but the honeycomb rock contains pockets of rich and fertile soil. Owing to the rocky nature of the soil the plough is never used, and a cultivated " field " in the Bahama Islands would astonish a farmer from any other part of the world. The surface rock is exceedingly hard, but the rock beneath is soft and is easily sawn into blocks, making an excellent building stone.

6. There are no mountains and very few hills, but in spite of this the islands are by no means lacking in beauty, the pure white sand of the beaches and the wonderful colouring of the sea making a picture not easily forgotten. It is probable that the islands were all thickly wooded at a comparatively recent date, but little forest remains except at Abaco, Andros, and Grand Bahama. On these three islands there are extensive pine forests, and a certain amount of mahogany and hardwood exists at Andros. A timber company is at present working the pine forest on Abaco.

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7. The following table will show the area and population on each of the principal islands of the Group :—

Island of Group.	*Area in square miles.*	*Population at last Census* (1921).
Abaco	776	3,993
Andros	1,600	6,976
Berry Islands	14	328
Bimini	8	610
Eleuthera and Harbour Island ...	166	7,547
Exuma and Cays	100	3,730
Grand Bahama	430	1,695
Inagua	560	937
Long Island	130	4,659
Fortune Island group (including Long Cay, Acklin's and Crooked Islands).	204	3,458
Mayaguana	96	432
New Providence	58	12,975
Ragged Island group	5	366
Rum Cay	29	338
Cat Island	160	4,273
San Salvador or Watling... ...	60	686
Totals	4,396	53,003

8. The total population is thus approximately 53,000, mostly the descendants of African slaves. There is, however, a larger proportion of whites in the Bahamas than in any other West Indian Colony, many of them being descendants of soldiers who settled in the Bahamas after the war of American Independence. English is the only language spoken.

9. At the time when the Bahamas were first discovered—that is to say in 1492—they were inhabited by a peaceful race of Indians who were soon removed to Hayti by the Spaniards to work in the mines. A few stone implements are occasionally found, but, apart from this, there is no trace of any aboriginal inhabitants. The Spaniards made no attempt to colonize the islands, which remained uninhabited until about the year 1629, when they were included in a Royal Grant, from which date they were visited from time to time by settlers from Bermuda. Earlier than that, namely 1578, they were already regarded as part of the British Domains. In 1647 a Company of " Eleutherian Adventurers " was formed in London for the purpose of colonizing the islands, which were granted by Parliament to the Company despite the earlier Royal Grant. In 1670 yet a third grant was made by Charles II, vesting the islands in Six Lords Proprietors.

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10. The Lords Proprietors were granted very complete powers for the government of the Islands. They were given the right to appoint Governors and other officials, to enact laws with the advice, assent, and approbation of the freemen, to erect forts and raise troops, to make war, and even to confer titles of honour. Two years after the grant of the charter the first Governor was appointed to the Bahamas by the Lords Proprietors. He and his successors found it extremely difficult to cope with the buccaneers, who at this time were the virtual rulers of the settlement. In 1673 one Governor was seized and deported to Jamaica ; in 1690 another was deposed and imprisoned, and it seems that the only Governors who escaped trouble were those who left the inhabitants to do as they pleased. In addition to internal troubles the Governors appointed by the Lords Proprietors had to deal with invasion. In 1680 the Spaniards destroyed the settlement and carried off the Governor to Cuba where he was " roasted on a spit." In 1703 a combined force of French and Spaniards destroyed Nassau once again and carried off the negro slaves, most of the white inhabitants fleeing to Carolina. The new Governor, who arrived in 1704, found New Providence totally uninhabited, and returned to England.

11. Within a few years, however, Nassau was re-established as the headquarters of the pirates in West Indian waters, and so great were the depredations of these pirates that the British Government found it necessary to send out a Governor to control the Colony and to drive the pirates from their stronghold. This Governor, Captain Woodes Rogers, arrived in Nassau in 1718, and in December of that year eight of the leading pirates were executed and the others compelled to give up their nefarious trade. A period of comparative quiet followed, but in 1776 a fleet belonging to the rebellious American Colonies captured the town of Nassau and carried off the Governor. Some ammunition and a quantity of stores were taken, but after a few days the place was evacuated. Five years later a Spanish force took possession of Nassau and left a garrison, but in 1783 the Spaniards were driven out by a British expedition.

12. The subsequent history of the Bahamas is comparatively uneventful. The abolition of slavery in 1838 caused an economic and social change ; the outbreak of Civil War in the United States led to a period of considerable prosperity in the Bahamas which, between the years 1861 and 1865, became a depot for vessels running the " blockade " imposed against the Confederate States. During the Great War, in spite of the distance of the Bahamas from the scene of the conflict, the inhabitants suffered some hardship on account of the difficulty of obtaining food supplies. The Colony sent a contingent to the British West Indies Regiment and contributed liberally to the Red Cross and other funds.

13. During the last decade the Bahamas have experienced a new era of prosperity which reached its maximum in the years 1924 to

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1926 and though there has been some decline, notably in respect to land sales and consequently of land values, the reputation the Colony has already established as a winter tourist resort, and which is due to its unrivalled climate, gives promise of an enduring and growing prosperity for the future. For the 1930 season no less than 49 excursion steamers are scheduled to call at Nassau, two of these being from the United Kingdom. For accommodation of visitors there are three first-class hotels besides smaller hotels, boarding houses and lodgings. The season is from the end of December to the beginning of April. There are indications that in future it may extend to later in the spring and during the year under review a summer excursion traffic was started between New York, Nassau, and Havana by the regular steamship service of the Munson Line. These modern developments have been of immense material benefit to Nassau but it cannot be said that as yet they are of direct advantage to the entire Colony and it must be admitted that the high cost of living and detraction from agricultural pursuits which have followed in the wake of tourist traffic and other alien influences have at least temporarily adversely affected the productivity of the Out Islands.

14. Unfortunately the period of exceptional prosperity terminated with a succession of hurricanes of which there have been no less than five since 1925. The devastation caused by the more severe of these disturbances has entailed considerable loss of property both public and private and constituted a drain on the public purse and private incomes. The damage caused to public property by the most recent hurricane of September, 1929, amounted to about £100,000 and the total value of all property destroyed cannot be computed at less than £300,000.

15. British gold and silver coins are legal tender in the Colony but a large amount of United States currency and some British currency notes are also in circulation. The Bahamas Government has issued local currency notes of three denominations, viz., 20s., 10s., and 4s., to the total value of £110,000.

II.—GENERAL.

16. The present constitution of the Bahamas is similar to those of the North American Colonies prior to the War of Independence. The Government is modelled upon that of England, in early days, the Governor representing the Sovereign, the nominated Legislative Council and the elected House of Assembly representing respectively the Houses of Lords and Commons.

17. "The Eleutherian Adventurers" who came to the Bahamas from Bermuda after the Parliamentary grant of 1647 brought with them the conception of representative Government already established in Bermuda, and the affairs of the infant Settlement were

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managed by a Governor, a Council, and an elected Senate. The charter of 1670 to the Lords Proprietors provided for an elected House of Assembly, and the constitution, much as it exists to-day, was finally settled in 1729, when the Crown assumed direct control of the Colony. The Bahamas enjoy representative, though not responsible, Government. The Executive Government is in the hands of a Governor and Commander-in-Chief, appointed by the Crown, who has the power of veto. He is advised by an Executive Council of nine members ; the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General and Receiver-General are members *ex-officio*, the other members being, as a rule, selected from one or other of the two branches of the Legislature. Various executive powers and the right to enact certain subsidiary legislation are vested by law in the Governor in Council.

18. The Legislative Council, consisting of nine members nominated by the Crown, has the right to initiate legislation (other than money bills) to amend bills passed by the House of Assembly (other than money bills) and to reject altogether any bills, even those dealing with money. In 1924 the Legislative Council rejected a bill for the reduction of the duty on spirits, which had passed the House of Assembly by a narrow majority.

19. The House of Assembly is composed of 29 members elected for 15 districts. The qualification for members is possession of real or personal property to the value of £200. The Out Islands seldom return a member of their own community, their 21 representatives being generally inhabitants of New Providence. The qualification for electors is ownership of land to the value of £5 or the occupation of houses of an annual rental value of £2 8s. in New Providence or half that amount in the Out Islands. Women have not the vote. The normal life of the House is seven years, but it may be dissolved at any time by the Governor, as occurred last in June, 1928. At the General Election which followed in June and July, 24 of the 29 members were returned unopposed. The following table shows the number of electors who voted at the contested elections :—

Constituency.	*No. of seats.*	*No. of unsuccessful candidates.*	*No. of Votes cast for elected candidates.*	*No. of Votes cast for unsuccessful candidates.*	*Population at* 1921 *Census.*
New Providence (East) (*a*)	2	—	236	203	
	—	—	235	—	2,000
	—	—	—	—	(approx.)
Cat Island (*a*)	2	1	331	31	4,273
			160	—	
Rum Cay and San Salvador (*b*).	1	1	107	6	1,024

(*a*) Each elector had two votes. (*b*) Each elector had one vote.

20. The Crown owns a considerable area of land in the various islands and receipts from the sale and lease of these Crown lands are

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placed to the credit of a special fund administered solely by the Governor under the direction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The receipts amounted to £5,228 in 1929.

21. With the exception of these Crown funds the finances of the Colony are within the control of the House of Assembly, subject to the decision of the Legislative Council and the veto of the Governor. The control of departments devolves largely on Boards appointed by the Governor under various Laws which require that a certain number of the Board Members shall be members of the House of Assembly.

III.—FINANCE.

22. The newly achieved prosperity of the Colony has been reflected in the increased revenue of the last decade. In 1919 the total receipts amounted to no more than £81,000; in 1923 they had swollen to £553,000 since when the annual revenue has stood at just under or over £500,000. On the other hand, expenditure has increased in proportion and has even exceeded revenue.

23. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1924–25	414,314	409,970
1925–26	502,202	374,126
1926–27	531,235	474,653
1927–28	485,319	672,986
1928–29	517,211	673,803
	£2,450,281	£2,605,538

24. The actual excess of expenditure over revenue for this period was £355,257. This excess is due to large public works, such as dredging of harbour, building of a new wharf and transit shed, the installation of a water supply and sewerage system, the cost of which has been paid for partly out of revenue and partly by advances made by the Crown Agents. Revenue is now being derived from the improved harbour and wharfage accommodation and from the water supply, and the sewerage works were on the verge of completion at the end of the year.

25. The Public Debt on 31st March, 1929, was £180,000, the whole of which amount was raised locally by sale of debentures. Provision is made by law for annual contribution from the revenue for a sinking fund for the redemption of these debentures.

26. Investments in England in Trustee Securities bearing interest at approximately 5 per cent. and amounting at the end of the

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financial year to £476,333 represent the liquid assets of the Colony, but against this there stands at present an overdraft with the Crown Agents for the Colonies of £421,000, so that the available surplus balance amounts to £55,000 only.

IV.—PRODUCTION.

27. The natural resources of the Bahamas are marine and forest products.

28. Most important of the marine products is sponge. The principal sponging ground is that known as the "Mud" lying off the western shores of Andros Island. Of late years the output has been considerably diminished due, apparently, to depletion of the supply resulting in part from ruthless fishing but more especially from wholesale destruction of sponges with each successive hurricane. Artificial sponge culture has been resorted to and has been productive of encouraging results around Andros and Exuma Islands.

29. Coarse salt is won from salt ponds on several islands, notably Ragged Island and Inagua. The salt industry was formerly of considerable value to the Colony and after a long period during which exports fell to negligible quantities there has been during the year under review a promising revival of the trade.

30. *Fisheries.*—Fish abound in the Bahamas, but only sufficient are caught for local consumption, there being no attempt at export. The following are the names of those most commonly eaten :—

> Margate, Grouper, Jack, Hog Fish, Amber Fish, Yellow Tail, Snapper, Bone Fish, Turbot, Black Fish, King Fish, Grunt, Hound Fish, Goggle Eye, and Jew Fish.

A factory has been established at Eleuthera for the canning and exporting of turtle and craw fish.

31. Conch and turtle shell find a limited and fluctuating market. The export of the latter is apparently on the increase and prevailing prices have been good.

32. There has been some slight revival of a shark skin industry which after being started several years ago had become extinct. While there is plenty of demand for the skin it is believed that the supply is too limited to establish an important trade.

33. *Forestry.*—The Colony is sub-tropical and both northern and tropical plants exist, the pine tree and the palm growing literally side by side. On several of the islands there are extensive areas of pine forests growing on land which is generally rocky and unsuited to agriculture, such land being commonly referred to by the suggestive name of "pine barren." The pine trees are suitable for conversion into lumber, and the whole of the forests are already let on licence to private firms, who pay a royalty on all timber obtained. There are five such timber concessions or licences, which together

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cover an area of 473 square miles, but active work is at present being carried out on only two of the areas.

34. Other woods of commercial value are found in limited quantities, and a small export trade is carried on in lignum-vitae and logwood. Sabicu, locally known as " horseflesh," is found, and the supply is consumed locally. There are also small quantities of Madera and cedar.

35. *Agriculture.*—The rocky nature of the land and the poverty of soil in the Bahamas unquestionably present difficulties in the way of peasant farming. Nevertheless the islands have in the past been highly productive of tropical cultivations and in years gone by a lively export trade existed. The present unproductive condition is manifestly due less to natural factors than to modern conditions which attract the peasants from the land. Another contributary factor may be the havoc caused by hurricanes during the past four years. Every effort is being made to revive agricultural production and not without a measure of success, but the year 1929 has been one of misfortune for the farmers of the Colony, every portion of which suffered either from hurricane, drought, floods, or insect pests.

36. Apart from staple foods, unfortunately produced in quantities insufficient to meet local demands, the principal cultivations of the present time are tomatoes and sisal. The Bahamas tomatoes are of the finest quality and find a ready sale on the United States market where they can be placed somewhat earlier than Florida produce. But the exportation of tomatoes is difficult for peasant producers and unless co-operative marketing can be introduced the industry will be handicapped. Owing to failures in the preceding years and the destruction by hurricane of some 50 per cent. of the early plantings the main crop was delayed beyond the close of the year, but the ultimate output will probably not be reduced and the market prospects are good. In particular the first shipment of tomatoes to Canada in this year is a new and hopeful development.

37. Sisal production, once the premier industry of the Colony, has declined until the value of exports represent barely a tenth of that of a decade earlier. The high cost of labour precludes the operation of plantations and decorticating factories, in consequence sisal cultivation is conducted entirely as a peasant industry and the fibre is prepared by hand. The product has been of inferior quality and the cultivation has suffered from neglect, but of late marked improvement has been noticeable and shipments have been made to Canada and the United Kingdom. Many of the peasants are said to be realizing that sisal production affords an assured income even with low prices and the lack of other resources is teaching them to appreciate its value while buyers are more alive to the fact that improvement in the quality of fibre shipped is the only means by which the industry can be preserved from complete extinction.

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38. Down to the early years of the present century considerable quantities of citrus fruits were exported. The industry then met with keen competition from Florida and was finally ruined by infestation by the Blue Grey Fly pest. Efforts have been made in recent years to restore the cultivation and it is estimated that prior to the September hurricane some 10,000 trees were nearing maturity. The storm destroyed what crop there was and killed about 60 per cent. of the trees, leaving the rest in very weak condition. Notwithstanding this disappointing result there has been some demand for plants to replace losses, but it will take time before general faith in citrus cultivation can be restored.

39. Experiments have been conducted during the year with tobacco growing and have given encouraging results.

40. As an indication of growing interest in farming may be taken the formation of various Farmers' Unions. Gardening has also become an established and outstanding feature of the educational system of the Colony.

41. The following table gives the quantity and value of each of the principal articles of local produce exported from the Colony during the past five years :—

		1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Cascarilla Bark ...	... lb.	86,578	28,554	31,920	76,728	77,124
	£	4,183	1,606	1,459	3,165	3,171
Tomatoes, raw ...	... M Bushels	57	106	214	179	91
	£	16,710	26,516	92,497	96,078	47,759
Sisal Hemp ...	... Tons	2,264	1,693	596	876	854
	£	52,137	40,082	10,632	15,187	15,679
Abaco pine timber	... M feet	11,349	9,052	8,082	3,649	2,480
	£	61,576	48,958	49,854	18,541	19,319
Woods, other ...	... Tons	108	127	76	92	128
	£	349	600	335	319	509
Shell, Tortoise ...	... lb.	10,449	6,463	7,740	7,843	11,112
	£	23,350	12,093	13,421	13,439	17,408
Shell, Conch ...	... No.	21,000	5,000	2,900	54,000	87,707
	£	179	365	225	311	414
Sponge	... M. lb.	1,655	1,532	959	970	268
	£	149,820	134,234	109,203	115,178	106,984
Salt	... M. Bushels	—	—	—	20	22
	£	—	—	—	242	245

V.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

42. The total value of the Colony's trade during the last five years was as follows :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	1,760,957	2,059,755	1,844,932	1,829,939	1,973,306
Exports	481,352	406,271	483,773	421,085	365,129
Total (excluding specie) ...	2,242,339	2,466,026	2,328,705	2,251,024	2,338,435

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It will be seen that trade has maintained a fairly steady level and that in the year 1929 the total volume has been the largest since 1926 which figured as a record year. The increase is, however, entirely on the import side, exports have fallen off, those of the year 1929 being but 63 per cent. of the imports of 1924 and 15 per cent. below those of 1928. The latter decrease is, however, in part due to the delayed export of tomatoes.

43. The value of imports from the three principal countries of origin for the same period was as follows :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£
Great Britain	560,794	525,625	438,424	401,795	420,421
Canada	240,295	462,273	401,498	455,257	521,508
United States of America	782,286	880,645	767,894	731,684	740,865

The steady rise of the figures representing imports from Canada is noteworthy.

44. The value of the principal classes of articles imported were as follows :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£
Spirits	637,311	750,448	614,372	672,629	743,784
Wines	38,423	44,688	38,826	48,780	64,362
Cordials and Liqueurs ...	9,378	9,871	11,664	12,739	13,297
Tobacco, cigars and cigarettes	22,133	24,787	20,926	19,820	22,570
Foodstuffs	322,585	406,896	376,023	380,984	387,929
Lumber and Shingles ...	38,791	55,024	52,990	42,809	54,044
Boots and Shoes	19,523	33,560	23,344	25,173	26,322
Cotton Manufactures ...	93,870	102,484	61,544	56,715	44,522
Metals, iron and steel, manufactures of—	54,899	59,047	111,331	70,353	16,840
Oils	43,374	59,972	65,462	49,231	57,114
Motor-cars, trucks and parts of—	32,566	40,097	26,237	30,625	30,741

45. The principal exports of local produce were :—

	Value.
	£
Tomatoes	47,759
Hemp	15,679
Cascarilla Bark	3,171
Lumber	19,319
Tortoise Shell	17,408
Sponge	106,984

Of these products tomatoes and cascarilla bark were exported entirely to the United States of America ; tortoise shell, with the exception of negligible quantities to Germany and the United States, went to the United Kingdom. About 50 per cent. of the hemp export went to the United States of America, 20 per cent. to Belgium

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and the balance to Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom. The lumber export was entirely to Cuba. Sponge was exported to nine countries of Europe, to the United States of America, Canada, and Japan, the major portion, i.e., 75 per cent., going to the United States of America, France, and the United Kingdom.

46. Trade with the United Kingdom is hampered considerably by difficulties of communication. There is no direct mail service, and the cargo steamers take about three weeks from England to the Bahamas and still longer on the return journey. New York, on the other hand, is less than three days by steamer from the Bahamas, and the ports of Florida are within a day's steam. In these circumstances it is explicable that there should be a close trade relationship between the Bahamas and the United States. There is little trade with Jamaica and Bermuda, with which places there is direct communication ; but, as a result of the recent Trade Agreement between Canada and the West Indies, the volume of trade with the Dominion is steadily increasing, particularly as regards importations of flour, sugar, oats, and potatoes.

47. There are several wholesale houses dealing in provisions and dry goods. One New York commission house has an agent in Nassau and keeps in stock a supply of flour, rice, hominy, and meal. The majority of the stores import direct either from the United States of America or the United Kingdom. Banking interests are represented in the Bahamas by the Royal Bank of Canada, which has a branch in Nassau. There is a Government Savings Bank which is operated under the Post Office Department.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

48. During the year, 2,740 steamers and sailing vessels of a total of 2,111,864 tons entered and cleared the ports of the Colony. Of this number 1,317 vessels with a total tonnage of 1,011,585 called at Nassau. Regular monthly services of cargo vessels from England are maintained by the Leyland and Harrison Lines and the Royal Mail Line. A weekly passenger and freight service to New York is maintained in the winter months by the Munson Line which is under contract with the Bahamas Government ; a passenger service to Miami is maintained by the same steamship line in the winter. The Canadian National Steamships vessels call at Nassau every two weeks. This line is in receipt of a Government subsidy. The only other port at which there is any considerable shipping is Inagua where 125 vessels of 43,844 tons have entered. Steamers of a Dutch line call at this port to embark stevedores to work cargoes at South American ports.

49. Communication with the Out Islands is maintained by sailing vessels and motor boats. Regular subsidised services by such vessels are maintained to all islands.

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50. There are numerous lighthouses on the various islands, some maintained by the Imperial Board of Trade and the others by the Bahamas Government. The waters of the Colony are full of shoals and rocks and navigation is difficult.

51. *Roads.*—In New Providence there are good roads and a considerable number of motors and carriages, over 1,200 motor vehicles being licensed. During recent years the roads in New Providence have been greatly improved ; most of the roads in the city have been oiled, and the main country roads east and west of the city have been rebuilt and oiled for a number of miles. In the Out Islands there is little wheeled traffic and most of the roads are impassable for vehicles. In accordance with the general policy adopted in respect to development of the Out Islands, road development has been undertaken on one island at a time. A good earth road of about 70 miles in extent has been constructed and was completed during the year in the island of Eleuthera. It is hoped that such road construction will facilitate agricultural development.

52. *Post Office.*—The various postal services have been well maintained during the year. The cash-on-delivery system is in force in New Providence. Mails to and from the United Kingdom pass through New York as there is no direct mail service. Domestic parcel post was established some years ago, and all District Post Offices are money order offices.

53. The telegraph cable between Nassau and Jupiter, Florida, broke down some years ago and was abandoned owing to cost of upkeep and the present wireless service substituted. This service, which is maintained by the Bahamas Government, consists of a central station of five kilowatts power spark and $1\frac{1}{2}$ kilowatts, continuous wave, at Nassau, and nine stations of half or one kilowatt power and eight smaller stations each of 25 watts, continuous wave, at various Out Islands. The latter stations have proved of great benefit to the industries of the islands, and are very useful for administrative purposes, and for dissemination of storm warnings. The Nassau station has operated throughout the year without any interruption, except for a short time after the September hurricane. But it becomes yearly more evident that this installation is not capable of handling the growing volume of telegraph traffic and its replacement by a more efficient system has been under consideration during the year.

54. *Telephones.*—In Nassau there is a Government telephone system with 1,000 subscribers. On Cat Island, Eleuthera, and Long Island, all the principal settlements are connected by telephone.

VII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

55. The law in force in the Colony consists of the Common Law of England as it existed at the time of the settlement, certain applied

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Acts of the Imperial Parliament, and the Acts passed by the Local Legislature. The Supreme Court is presided over by a Chief Justice ; appeals from the Supreme Court lie to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. There is a Stipendiary and Circuit Magistrate in Nassau who goes on circuit annually in the Out Islands to try appeals from the decisions of the Commissioners in charge of each district. The Registrar-General also makes a similar circuit once a year.

56. The Colony's armed Police Force consists of 125 rank and file and 4 Officers. The Force is stationed chiefly in Nassau, the Out Islands being policed mostly by local constables.

57. The central prison is in Nassau. All long term prisoners are sent to Nassau to undergo their sentences.

VIII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

58. No works of any consequence were undertaken during the year 1929. A drainage and sewerage system for Nassau which was started in 1928 was practically completed by the end of 1929 and awaited only the connecting of houses with the main sewers. The principal works undertaken were restoration of public buildings and roads wrecked in the September hurricane. The total expenditure on these works was £70,500 but the actual cost of complete restoration will be in the region of £100,000.

IX.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

59. The total number of cases treated by the Medical Department shows a considerable increase on that of the previous year. The death-rate has, however, decreased. Last year there were 314 deaths as compared with 280 this year, a decrease of 34.

60. Mosquito-borne diseases are few and far between. Apart from a few cases of malaria mostly from the Out Islands the Colony has been free from any epidemic. With the exception of gastro-intestinal diseases, most of the epidemics that have occurred in the past have been imported and are not indigenous. There was an influenza epidemic which commenced in January when 130 cases were reported. The number of cases gradually dropped to 10 in April with a slight recrudescence in May and June of 40 cases. Last summer an epidemic of bacillary dysentery occurred when 273 cases were reported—an increase on the previous year when the number reported was eleven. Thanks to the improved water supply, which is now pipe-borne and chlorinated, typhoid incidence has dropped from 100 in 1928 to 63 last year. Tuberculosis appears to be on the increase in the Colony and the number of cases reported has risen from 23 in 1927 to 122 in 1929.

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X.—EDUCATION.

61. Primary education is compulsory for children between the ages of six and fourteen years and is provided at public expense under the direction of the Board of Education. The average cost per pupil was £1 15s. 7d. and the total amount voted to the Board of Education was £25,550.

62. The Board maintained 52 schools besides which grants-in-aid were paid to 56 other schools. The total pupil roll was 13,264. Owing to the scattered population this relatively large number of schools is not entirely adequate, not a few children are out of reach of any school and in certain localities attendance at school entails a certain amount of hardship on young children.

63. In conformity with the agricultural policy of the Government prominence has been given in all Board schools to agricultural training which is becoming an outstanding feature of education in the Bahamas. The results achieved have been satisfactory but the school gardens and farms suffered a severe set-back in the September hurricane. In seven schools carpentry is also taught and in 47 schools sewing lessons for the girl pupils have been introduced.

64. The Board employs sixty-nine teachers among whom are five from the United Kingdom and five from other West Indian Colonies. The shortage of qualified teachers within the Colony has proved a great handicap to education and it was partly with a view to improvement in this direction that a Government High School was established some years ago. Secondary education is otherwise afforded in schools maintained by several religious bodies which are assisted by grants-in-aid from the Government.

XI.—LANDS.

65. The total area of the Colony is estimated at about 4,400 square miles, and of this area only 601 square miles have been alienated, and are now in private hands, in addition to the 410 square miles of Grand Bahama which is being leased to the Grand Bahama Mercantile and Development Company, Limited.

66. The large area of land still remaining to the Crown comprises much swamp and rocky and barren land, the areas most suitable for agriculture having been acquired long ago by private persons.

67. It is the present policy of the Crown not to sell lands outright but to rent on a tenancy until such time as the tenant has effected permanent improvements, either by building or cultivation, when an application for a grant in fee simple is considered. During the year 1929, 51 Crown Land Grants have been issued for a total area of 826½ acres. During the land boom in 1924–26 the value of all lands increased considerably, especially on the island of New

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Providence on which Nassau, the capital of the Colony, is situated. Since this period, though the value is still much above the pre-boom prices, yet it has decreased to a great extent. Crown Land in New Providence has been considered as of little agricultural value, and, at present, there is no great demand for residential sites.

68. In New Providence, Crown Land is usually sold by auction at an upset price fixed according to value, and deferred payments are allowed. On the small outer islands of the Colony leases are granted with the right to purchase subject to permanent improvement. In case of sale of extensive tracts on larger islands, special terms are arranged.

XII.—LABOUR.

69. The lack of remunerative industries in the Colony and more particularly in the Out Islands has in the past induced a steady flow of emigration to Florida resulting in depopulation of certain of the Islands. The United States Immigration Law of 1914 put a stop to this migration, but ample employment was then obtainable in Nassau as a result of real estate development. The cessation of the land boom in 1926 considerably restricted this development, but the construction of large public works and road development on New Providence still afforded employment. Consequent on the completion of these works there was much unemployment during the year 1929 and as a result the people are coming to realize the need for a stable industry. Attention has been concentrated on agriculture as the abiding and natural occupation of the people and the Government has given every encouragement in this direction.

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

70. In September, the central islands, including New Providence, were swept by a hurricane which was the severest within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. Nassau, the capital, sustained the full brunt of the storm and suffered extensive destruction of buildings, shipping, and communications. The total damage done to public works cost the Colony about £100,000. Expenditure caused by hurricane devastations since 1926 has amounted to approximately £250,000 and has constituted a heavy strain on the financial resources of the Colony. Industry and more particularly agriculture have similarly suffered and progress has therewith been retarded.

71. Despite the extensive destruction of public amenities and private property rapid recovery was achieved and full preparation made for the tourist season which bid fair to establish a record. Unfortunately it was evident at the close of the year that the situation on the New York Stock Exchange was likely to have a restricting effect on the tourist traffic and to shorten the travelling season.

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72. Among the more important legislative Acts of the year may be mentioned the following :—

The Births and Deaths Registration Act.—This Act made registration compulsory and repealed certain obsolete legislation of the same order.

The Police Force (Military Service) Act.—By this Act members of the police force become subject to military law and military service conditions in the event of any state of emergency.

The Firearms Act.—The Act repeals the older Revolvers Acts and regulates the bearing of arms of all descriptions.

Other legislation was amending and appropriating for the expenditure of the year.

A special session of the Legislature was summoned in October for the provision of funds required for restoration of public works destroyed in the hurricane and for provision for housing of poor people whose homes were demolished.

CHARLES DUNDAS,
Colonial Secretary.

NASSAU,
14*th April*, 1930.

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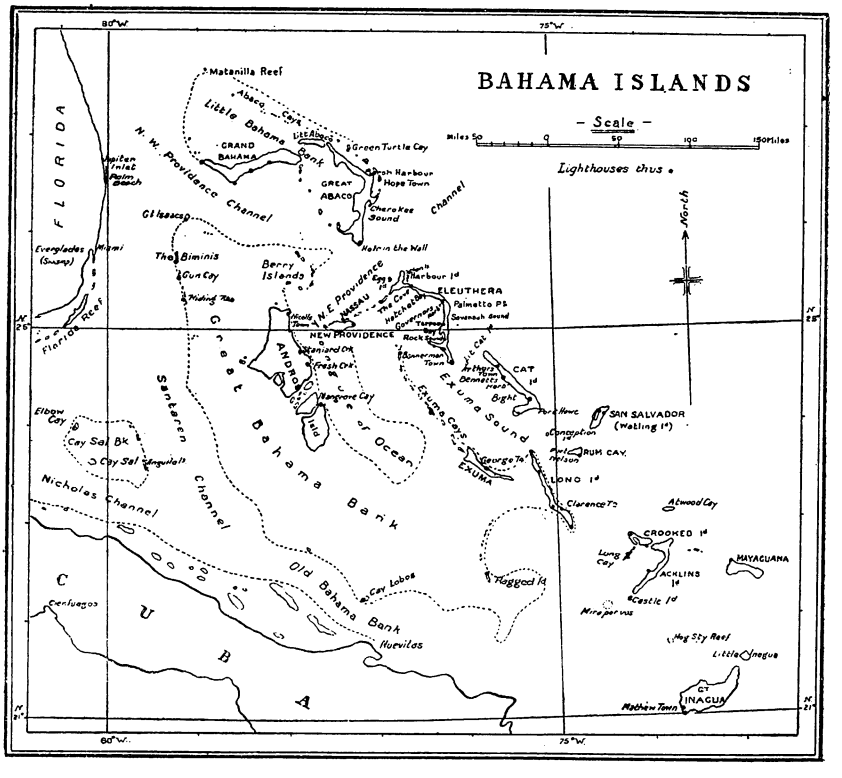

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KELANTAN

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1929

BY

R. J. B. CLAYTON, M.C.S.

British Adviser

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CORRIGENDA.

Para. 6, clause 2. Transpose seventh and eighth lines.

Para. 22. For "Orchids" read "Orchards" *passim.*

Para. 24, line 1. For "most" read "more".

Para. 32, line 1. For "the" read "to".

Para. 41, clause 4. For "1879" read "2879".

Para. 60, clause 2. For "accumulated" read "accounted".

Para. 65, line 2. For "purely" read "partly".

In paras 15, 20, 25, 39, 44, 63, and 70, commas have been omitted in printing.

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KELANTAN.

Administration Report for the Year 1929.

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1. HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

1. Little is known of the early history of Kelantan but the name is said to be derived from the two Malay words "Gelam Hutan"; a species of swampy jungle, (Melaleuca Leucadendron,) which originally covered much of the coastal area.

A Chinese Chronicler, CHAO JE KUA, writing about the year 1225, mentions it as subject to the Sumatran Kingdom of Palembang. Portuguese and Dutch maps of the 16th century give the name, and some show a town near the coast, but references to the country are few. Towards the end of the 18th century, the Siamese established suzerainty, which continued till 1909, when it was transferred to Great Britain and a British Adviser,—"Whose advice the Sultan undertakes to follow in all matters of administration other than those touching the Mohammedan religion and local Malay custom"—appointed.

The present ruler is His Highness the Sultan Sir ISMAIL IBNI ALMARHUM SULTAN MOHAMED, IV, K.C.M.G., who succeeded his father in 1920.

2. The State, (of which a map is annexed) lies on the Eastern coast of the Malay Peninsula between latitudes 4° 35′ and 6° 15′ North and longitudes 101° 22′ and 102° 37′ East, and is bounded on the North by the China Sea, on the East by the China Sea and the State of Trengganu, on the South by the State of Pahang, and on the West by the State of Perak, and the Patani district of Southern Siam. It has a greatest length from North to South of 115 miles and a greatest breadth from East to West of 60 miles; the total area being 5,713 square miles.

The State Capital is Kota Bharu, situated some six miles from the mouth of the Kelantan river and containing 12,000 inhabitants. Kuala Krai is the headquarters of the Southern and Pasir Puteh of the Eastern, Administrative District.

3. Behind a low sandy coast line of some 60 miles in length, lies a fertile plain of about 1,000 square miles in area, densely populated, and closely cultivated with rice, coconut and fruit trees. South of this plain the country is hilly and broken, the highest hills being those of the main range of the Peninsula, which forms the boundary with Perak, and the Tahan range on the Pahang border, many peaks exceeding 5,000 feet in height. This part of the State is thinly populated, but contains the bulk of the foreign owned

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estates. Owing to the difficulty of river navigation, and the complete absence of other means of communication it has, until recently, remained almost inaccessible but is now being opened to settlers by the Federated Malay States (East Coast) Railway.

4. The population, which is predominantly Malay, and Kelantan-born, was at the 1921 Census 309,300, of whom 286,363 were Malays and of these 278,989 Kelantanese. Of 12,000 Chinese half were born in Kelantan, and practically all of the 6,000 Siamese. Europeans number about 160.

5. The predominant industry is agriculture and the most important product rice. Next in importance are rubber, copra and dried betel nut, while there is also an export of cattle and poultry.

Other local industries are fishing and weaving. There is, at present, no mining worth mention though prospecting for tin is in progress, deposits of Hematite and Tungsten have been located, and gold was formerly won.

6. As compared with the Western States of Malaya the climate may be described as hot, dry and bracing. A completely equipped second order Meteorological Station was established at Kota Bharu in August and a daily weather report published. Temperatures were recorded at 4 and rainfall at 24 other stations but no figures are available, for the high lands in the South. At Kota Bharu the maximum temperature recorded was 97F and the minimum 65F with a mean maximum of 89.93F and a mean minimum of 72.60F. At Chaning, the most southerly (inland) station for which records are available, the lowest temperature recorded was 68.97F and the mean minimum 70.17F. December and January are the coolest, and June and July the hottest, months of the year. The heat is usually tempered by a cool breeze.

The annual rainfall recorded at 25 stations varied from 132.86 inches, with a maximum of 8.65 inches in 24 hours at Pasir Puteh on the Eastern Coast to 76.41 inches with a maximum of 6.14 inches in 24 hours at Kuala Krai, 50 miles inland and is well below the average of previous years. The heaviest precipitation recorded at any station in 24 hours was 9.30 inches at Kota Bharu. December monsoon rain, only 2.60 inches being recorded at Kota The Meteorological feature of the year was the failure of the Bharu as against a previous lowest of 8.16 inches in 1904 and an average over 24 years of 26.68 inches.

7. The principal language is Malay, which is spoken and understood by all but a small minority of Immigrant Indian and Chinese labourers.

8. Straits Settlements' currency, monetary units and weights and measures are in use but a locally minted coin called "Pitis" made from an alloy of tin and lead, is still current in the bazaar, though no longer manufactured.

In this report the local units of money, weight and measure referred to are: Pitis = 1/5 of a cent; Cent = 1/100 of a dollar;

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Dollar = 2/4 *s.d.*; Kati = $1\frac{1}{3}$ lbs; Pikul = 100 katis or $133\frac{1}{3}$ lbs; Gantang = one gallon; Kodi = a bale of a score of pieces of cloth; (16 Pikuls 80 Katis = one Ton.)

II. GENERAL.

9. In 1927 Kelantan suffered from an unprecedented flood, followed by a fire in Kota Bharu which destroyed 275 houses. In 1928 damage from both flood and fire was escaped but in August 1929 about half of the same congested area (143 houses) was again destroyed by fire and the usual December rain and flood was replaced by a drought, with dire effect on the growing rice crop. The owners of the burnt out shop area have now agreed to a redistribution scheme which will provide adequate fire breaks and the possibilities of an irrigation scheme or schemes for the rice lands are being explored.

10. Though less directly dependent than some other parts of Malaya on rubber, the low price of that commodity is reflected in a general slowing down of business activities, and a falling off in the demand for land and the almost complete failure of the 1929—1930 rice crop renders the outlook for 1930 a somewhat gloomy one.

11. With the appointment in June 1928 of an officer with legal training as the Judicial Commissioner and Legal Adviser, Kelantan, to preside over the High Court and commence the work of redrafting and codifying the laws of the State, legislation in Kelantan entered upon a new phase. In place of the previous somewhat haphazard method, a procedure was adopted under which, unless a certificate of urgency is granted under the hand of H.H. the Sultan, all enactments are introduced and read for the first time at one meeting of the State Council and passed at a subsequent meeting. All enactments, the rules made thereunder, and certain declarations and appointments are printed and published as "Notifications" and the annual bound volume issued will to a large extent take the place of a Government Gazette. Printing is done by a local Malay firm and the "Notifications" are printed in Jawi (Arabic Character) with an English translation, the Jawi version alone having the force of law. An exception was made in respect of the rules under the Electricity Enactment which, owing to their extreme technicality, were passed in English.

12. Legislation is based on that in force in the Federated Malay States and the difficulty of reproducing in the Malay language an enactment which preserves in its entirety the exact legal meaning of the model from which it is taken, without detracting from or adding to that meaning, renders legislation a somewhat slow process.

During the year under review 8 enactments were passed, of which three, the Savings Bank Enactment, Petroleum Enactment and the Electricity Enactment were new, the remainder being amendments of existing legislation. Rules under these three new enactments were also passed and, inter alia, provision made for the regulation of Individual Mining Licences and of Town and Country Markets.

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The Straits Settlements Penal Code and Evidence Ordinance were also translated into Malay and agreed to (though not formally passed) and are now printing, while the Limitation of Suits Enactment, the Administration Eanctment, and a number of amendments to existing legislation are in draft and under consideration by the State Council.

III. FINANCE.

13. The following table gives the annual revenue and expenditure since the State came under British protection:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	$	$
1910	419,327	403,552
1911	487,467	574,850
1912	535,669	665,608
1913	676,020	672,137
1914	762,772	805,965
1915	692,556	807,714
1916	822,860	808,164
1917	910,291	757,946
1918	955,402	899,161
1919	1,141,444	1,065,012
1920	1,328,955	1,403,208
1921	1,160,262	1,678,432
1922	1,310,020	1,539,318
1923	1,396,855	1,271,887
1924	1,422,113	1,442,032
1925	1,804,180	1,401,961
1926	2,371,595	1,927,134
1927	2,448,090	2,949,438*
1928	2,570,550	2,463,762
1929	2,481,139	2,215,771

*Includes a sum of $320,000 devoted to reduction of the Public Debt.

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14. Revenue. Although, as shown by the comparative table given below, the revenue collected exceeded the estimates by $173,450, as compared with the 1928 figures there was a decline of $89,410. "Customs" increased by $17,975; the reduced export of copra and betel-nuts being more than counterbalanced by the increased export of rubber and the larger import of dutiable articles; in particular Benzine, Petroleum, Motor Vehicles, Sugar and Tobacco. The notable increase under "Municipal" was due in part to the provision of new Municipal Services and in part to improved supervision.

The decreases under "Land Revenue," "Licence, Excise" and "Fees of Office" are directly traceable to the depression in the Rubber Industry (which reduced the demand for Land, "Land Sales" and all other receipts in respect of Land) and to the greatly lessened consumption of opium, of which the importation and sale is under an increasingly strict Government control. The gross revenue from this source reached its peak ($656,546) in 1928 but had in the year under review declined to $561,140 and after deducting the expenditure ($131,251) and cost of supervision now represents only 16.9% of the revenue of the State.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR THE YEARS 1928 AND 1929

Head of Revenue	Estimates 1929.	Revenue 1929.	Revenue 1928.	Increase	Decrease
	$	$	$	$	$
Land Revenue	551,535	548,495	575,535	—	27,040
Customs	701,200	838,545	820,570	17,975	—
Port Dues	6,500	7,324	7,093	231	—
Licence, Excise, etc. ..	720,715	699,617	790,019	—	90,402
Fees of Office etc. ..	93,600	98,231	125,084	—	20,853
Posts and Telegrphs ..	110,620	125,215	112,965	12,250	—
Interest	25,150	26,902	20,953	5,949	—
Miscellaneous Receipts ..	4,300	14,935	33,417	—	18,482
Municipal	74,070	121,876	84,914	36,962	—
	2,287,690	2,481,140	2,570,550	—	89,410

15. There was no alteration in the basis of taxation.

In this and all previous reports all revenue from the sale of stamps whether postally used or otherwise has been shown under "Posts and Telegraphs" but this system of accounting has now been revised and the value of stamps fiscally and judicially used will in future appear under their appropriate heads of revenue; the Post Office taking credit only for stamps postally used, plus 1% of value of those not postally used. Calculated on this basis the postal revenue from the sale of stamps during 1929 was $39,414 and the total postal revenue $51,043.

16. Expenditure. The uncertainties of the general financial position made the most careful economy a vital necessity and, although this is to some extent discounted by the revoting for 1930 of $45,500, the actual expenditure was $265,369 less than the revenue, $46,041 below the estimate and $247,991 below that of 1928.

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Both the revenue and the expenditure estimates for the year had been very conservatively framed and the revenue receipts proving higher than was anticipated, it was possible to provide under "Special Expenditure" for a number of urgent Public Works which had perforce been postponed. The operation of incremental and revised schemes and necessary additions to the subordinate staff increased Personal Emoluments by $50,589 to $793,228 but this increase is to some extent off-set by a decrease in Temporary Allowances. Miscellaneous Expenditure was swelled by exceptionally heavy payments under that head on account of unprovided pensions, gratuities and the passages and leave pay of Officers.

The main decreases of expenditure were in no small measure due to the able administration by the State Engineer of the funds allotted for expenditure on Public Works.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEARS 1928 AND 1929.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimates 1929.	Expenditure 1929.	Expenditure 1928.	Increase	Decrease.
Pensions and Retired Allowances	100,366	94,000	98,963	—	4,963
Personal Emoluments ..	821,250	793,537	742,639	50,898	—
Other charges	732,862	574,636	611,390	—	36,754
Interest	10,000	10,000	10,000	—	—
Transport	2,500	3,305	2,403	902	—
Compensation for land and Crops	10,000	24,444	23,471	973	—
Miscellaneous	85,134	136,335	112,565	23,770	—
Works and Buildings A. R. ..	44,500	36,665	47,100	—	10,435
Roads, Streets and Bridges A. R.	127,000	126,423	110,117	16,296	—
Works and Buildings S. S. ..	104,200	71,341	184,141	—	112,800
Roads, Streets and Bridges S. S.	89,000	110,345	363,939	—	253,594
Special Expenditure	—	115,572	31,195	84,377	—
Temporary Allowances ..	135,000	119,178	125,839	—	6,661
Total	2,261,812	2,215,771	2,463,762	—	247,991

17. The balance to the debit of the State at the close of the year was $3,088,734 and the external debt $4,080,684 of which $3,880,684 is the sum advanced in 1926 (interest free for five years) by the Straits Settlements Government to enable the State to satisfy the Duff Arbitration Award and of which no part was spent in Kelantan.

A detailed statement of assets and liabilities is given as an Appendix.

18. There are branches of the Mercantile Bank of India in the State Capital, Kota Bharu, and at Kuala Krai and a branch of the Overseas Chinese Bank in Kota Bharu. A Post Office Savings Bank is also available in Kota Bharu.

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IV. PRODUCTION.

A. AGRICULTURAL.

19. *Rice.* Up to and including the year 1923 Kelantan was an exporter and not an importer of the staple food of Malaya—Rice, but as the tables given on pages (11) and (13) show, has now become an importer on a considerable scale and has been compelled, to prohibit export. The area cultivated annually is large, between 170,000 and 180,000 acres and its production should normally suffice to supply local consumption and to leave a surplus for export but the seasons have been unfavourable; the soil of part of the area cultivated is poor; the crop is almost entirely dependent on the rain fall for its irrigation and there is a tendency to abandon the less productive rice fields or to plant them with other crops.

The crop statistics given below, even if the production figures are, as seems probable when checked on a rice consumption basis, an under-estimate, speak for themselves and the 1929—1930 crop now being harvested, has been even more damaged by drought than that of the previous year and is likely to prove the poorest ever recorded.

Year.	Area cultivated.	Total production in gantangs.	Approximate production per acre.
1925—1926	158,250 acres	25,025.000	158 gantangs.
1926—1927	173,987 ,,	18,571,000	107 ,,
1927—1928	175,372 ,,	18,828,000	107 ,,
1928—1929	180,176 ,,	14,996,104	83 ,,

Seed selection has been tried with promising results, but despite the acknowledged industry of the Kelantanese peasant, it is unlikely that the State, with its increasing population, will ever again grow enough rice for its own needs, far less have a surplus for export, unless irrigation facilities are provided for the land now under cultivation and the water logged areas, not yet under rice, drained.

20. *Rubber.* The unauthorised planting and interplanting of rubber in past years on land not alienated for this purpose makes it difficult to give accurate figures for the area actually under rubber, more especially as, with the fall in the value of the crop, considerable areas of young rubber have been abandoned and allowed to revert to secondary jungle, but the available figures give a total planted area of 89,213 acres, of which 50,695 acres are mature. A further 1,100 acres is, though not mature, capable of production. Of this total just over 30,000 acres is represented by cultivation on Estates; the balance of 59,000 acres being on holdings of less than 100 acres in area in Asiatic ownership. The alienation for rubber cultivation during the year amounted to 4,657 acres.

With the Estates on "alternate-day" systems of tapping and some of the small holders not tapping regularly because of the low price, production was approximately 360 lbs. per acre but a rise in price would stimulate production by at least 25% and the large areas planted in 1926 and 1927 (circa 20,000 acres) will in another 3 years greatly increase the potential production figure.

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21. *Coconuts and Betel Nuts.* There has been little or no change as regards the area planted with these products, the cultivation of which is confined almost entirely to the already fully developed coastal plain and the drop in the export must be attributed to a bad harvest and low prices. The export figure by no means represents the actual production as an increasingly large proportion of the crop is consumed locally when the export value is low. A Government experimental nursery of the "dwarf" variety of this palm, which, theoretically at least, gives an increased yield of copra per acre, has been started.

22. *Other agricultural production.* Fruit orchids, ground nuts, tobacco and many other minor agricultural products flourish but there is no surplus available for export.

The approximate acreages under cultivation or otherwise agriculturally occupied during 1929 were:—

Rice.	Rubber.	Coconuts.	Fruit Orchids.	Miscellaneous and grazing land.	Total.
acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
180,176	89,213	57,200	50,000	100,000	476,589

23. *Cattle and poultry.* Kelantan has an excellent local breed of cattle and buffaloes and a less excellent one of sheep and goats; all of which appear to a great extent to have achieved practical immunity from tropical pests and diseases. The cattle census taken in May, gave a total of 105,399 head of cattle and 27,504 head of buffaloes. No census was taken of sheep or goats. The area open and available for pasturage is somewhat limited, especially during the padi season when cattle have to be kept out of the rice fields, and although the State is self supporting as regards its meat supply, the number of cattle enumerated each year remains practically constant and the surplus available for export is small; the export in 1929 being only 870 head. It has therefore been necessary to prohibit the export of cows, ewes and she-goats but this prohibition was relaxed in favour of the Government of Indo-China in respect of a small flock of sheep required by the Government for breeding purposes.

Owing to the practical immunity from disease of the present Kelantan stock, importation, except under licence, is also prohibited and the importation of sires for breeding purposes has not been attended with any great success. Religious scruples, coupled, until bull-fighting was abolished in 1928, with the hope that each young bull might develop into a champion fighter, have led to the preservation entire of too many young bulls and this has resulted in considerable inbreeding but the example of our one European scientific cattle breeder (who is also experimenting with imported ewes) aided by official propaganda, will it is hoped, lead the peasant cattle owners to more scientific methods. It is a somewhat costly and difficult matter to convert forest to pasture land, but if this difficulty can be overcome, the small but hardy and compact Kelantan cattle, which butcher well, offer an undoubted opening for scientific cattle breeding on a large scale, to supply the adjacent, and somewhat ill catered for, Malayan meat market.

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Despite an outbreak of fowl cholera, the high prices offered induced an increased export of poultry.

B. FORESTRY.

24. The most accessible forests of Kelantan are poor in respect of Chengai and Merbau, the most highly valued of Malayan commercial timbers, and the devastation of the stands of wild rubber, has made it necessary, except in the case of Jelutong, to prohibit for the present exploitation of this jungle product, but Resak, Kumus, Seraya and Kulim are plentiful, as it also Tembusu. Kelantan is at present an importer of timber and without a trained Forestry Department, but the popularisation of the less well known timbers and the opening up of Southern Kelantan may entirely alter the position. The forest royalty collected amounted to $48,328.

No timber survey has been attempted but it is estimated that approximately 4,120 square miles, or 72% of the area of the State. is under forest, of which however only some 500 square miles is merchantable, the balance being classed as inaccessible or unprofitable.

The area of reserved forest is 155,414 acres and the constitution of further reserves is in hand.

C. FISHERIES.

25. For tropical waters in which the lack of nitrogen inhibits the growth of water weed and the supply of plankton, both sea and rivers are well stocked with fish. The exposed and harbourless coast, the presence of coral, and the distance from markets, however combine to discourage fishing by any but primitive native methods and although there is a large "fleet" of native fishing boats, the catch is all consumed locally or exported as salt fish. In the two local markets for which figures are available, the sale of fresh fish amounted to 1,293 tons during the year but this, of course, represents but a small fraction of the local consumption.

202 tons of salt fish were imported, while the export of 939 tons of the same commodity is exclusive of 5,541 jars of that very ill-smelling Kelantan dainty "Budu" or fish Ketchup.

D. MINING.

26. Although 2,335 acres are held on mining title and prospecting rights extant over 46,669 acres, production from this source is almost negligible, the only metallic export of the year being some 1¾ tons of tin ore. A large deposit of iron ore (Hematite) was discovered at Temangan (40 miles from the coast) and is to be worked by a Japanese Mining Company if transport difficulties can be overcome. An apparently rich deposit of Tungsten ore has also been located about 8 miles south from the railway line at Sungei Golok. Prospecting has for the most part been of a very desultory nature and except for the area referred to above no

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selections have been made. Gold was at one time worked and exported but there has been little won and none exported of recent years.

In and adjoining the coastal plain of Northern Kelantan agricultural interests (especially rice cultivation) are of paramount importance and although some areas of the foot-hills are known to be stanniferous, mining could only be allowed under very strict control. Prospecting and individual mining licences are, therefore, confined to the District of Ulu Kelantan and the sub-district of Kelantan Bharu. Some of the stanniferous areas adjoining the upper reaches of the Nenggiri river are reported to be rich, if patchy, but transport difficulties have so far prevented mining on any but a petty scale and this accounts for the smallness of the annual output of tin ore.

E. GENERAL.

27. As elsewhere in Malaya, basket and mat making is carried on but the outstanding "Cottage Industry" of the State is the weaving of silk and cotton piece goods both for local use and for export. The following table is a good guide to Kelantan's productive activities, except as regards Padi and rice, the export of which is not permitted.

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Comparative Statement of the Principal Articles of Local Production and Export for five Years.

No.	Article	How stated.	1925 Quantity.	1925 Value.	1926 Quantity.	1926 Value.	1927 Quantity.	1927 Value.	1928 Quantity.	1928 Value.	1929 Quantity.	1929 Value.
				$		$		$		$		$
1.	Rubber	Pikuls	65,960	9,314,227	103,634	10,419,532	98,327	7,796,450	95,004	4,030,150	135,127	5,732,427
2.	Copra	„	86,623	891,895	93,609	1,070,286	82,521	674,814	150,414	1,362,412	122,187	941,482
3.	Betel-nuts:—(a) Dried ..	„	41,812	630,147	47,078	667,078	14,698	96,910	54,722	382,059	26,194	197,283
	(b) Fresh ..	..	..	675	..	..	..	1,502	..	2,000	..	237
4.	Rice and Padi	Pikuls	180	620	210	754	10	47	123	912	1	11
5.	Timber and Planks	..	..	27	..	601	..	653	..	121	..	432
6.	Cattle	Nos.	571	22,512	766	36,230	1,973	108,752	848	29,849	870	44,976
7.	Jungle Produce	..	..	9,254	..	6,765	..	12,309	..	12,481	..	13,237
8.	Fish	Pikuls	12,073	122,936	12,625	152,681	12,832	128,352	12,784	127,819	15,772	188,568
9.	Poultry	Dozens	3,978	14,491	3,049	12,026	6,480	25,915	3,747	14,990	4,738	22,953
10.	Tin-Ore	Pikuls	20	1,752	8	767	59	6,500	71	6,014	27	1,785
11.	Gold	Ozs.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12.	Textiles:—(a) Silk	Kodis	65	10,423	595	59,505	532	53,201	243	22,278	121	10,653
	(b) Cotton ..	„	1,197	46,540	218	8,750	..	13,220	..	41,150	..	28,205

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V. TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

28. *Trade.* Both import and export trade is almost entirely with Singapore, though a proportion of our imported rice comes direct from Siam, and since the opening of railway communication, Penang has captured a minute share thereof.

Thanks chiefly to the increased bulk of the rubber export the value of trade rose from $13,560,005 in 1928 to $15,556,843 in 1929 and the favourable balance of trade, which the restriction of the rubber output coupled with low prices had for the first time in over a decade destroyed in 1928, was restored. Detailed trade returns are published separately but the total comparative figures for the last five years are given below.

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	$	$	$	$	$
Imports	5,211,103	5,682,902	6,530,025	7,356,769	7,572,954
Exports	11,185,696	12,518,719	9,021,746	6,213,236	7,983,889
Total Trade ..	16,396,799	18,201,621	15,551,771	13,560,005	15,556,843

29. Under exports, copra, betel-nuts and textiles showed the only serious decreases both in value and quantity and these decreases (even apart from the rubber export) were fully counterbalanced by the increased value of the poultry, fish and cattle exported. The high price realised for the cattle was due to the sale of prize fighting bulls which lost their special local value on the final prohibition of bull fights.

30. The most notable increase in the import trade were in Fish, Textiles, Sugar, Tobacco, Motor Vehicles and Benzine. The import of rice decreased but it was far more costly. The 1928 figure for machinery was abnormal being due to the import of vessels by the Kelantan Tug and Lighterage Syndicate.

31. If read with the export table given under "Production" the annexed import table very clearly presents the general trade position.

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Comparative Statement of the Principal Articles of Import for five Years.

No.	Article	How Stated	1925 Quantity.	1925 Value.	1926 Quantity.	1926 Value.	1927 Quantity.	1927 Value.	1928 Quantity.	1928 Value.	1929 Quantity.	1929 Value.
				$		$		$		$		$
1.	Fish	Pikuls	4,108	41,061	3,530	44,991	3,800	49,378	2,217	26,609	3,389	45,976
2.	Rice	„	85,985	617,900	139,022	988,733	236,705	1,656,937	334,478	1,341,412	319,108	1,511,017
3.	Benzine	Gallons	82,700	82,864	114,425	114,425	226,512	226,512	270,936	270,300	394,597	307,380
4.	Petroleum	„	53,930 cases	387,306	36,472 cases	218,835	64,230 cases	366,095	73,073 cases	398,979	75,547 cases	415,509
5.	Textiles (all kinds)	..	..	1,097,300	..	915,398	..	639,943	..	703,184	..	763,960
6.	Machinery	..	..	34,400	..	59,655	..	71,575	..	131,524	..	41,981
7.	Motor Vehicles	..	..	186,200	..	164,075	..	106,038	..	31,220	..	62,013
8.	Cement	Casks	2,527	15,257	5,263	35,444	12,453	74,716	23,797	119,695	17,127	88,920
9.	Timber and Planks	..	..	56,014	..	73,797	..	106,642	..	46,163	..	18,360
10.	Drugs and Medicine ..	..	..	44,274	..	76,208	..	67,450	..	148,849	..	142,327
11.	Bread and Biscuits	..	..	48,213	..	55,816	..	45,600	..	57,203	..	43,406
12.	Curry Stuffs	..	..	16,517	..	25,937	..	30,828	..	52,383	..	27,341
13.	Wheat Flour	Pikuls	8,995	89,653	11,961	77,128	14,352	100,464	9,146	91,665	9,204	91,894
14.	Tinned Milk	Cases	11,509	116,218	15,292	174,611	18,964	208,606	17,957	210,407	20,743	161,162
15.	Sugar	Pikuls	16,417	213,416	22,439	269,568	18,444	239,772	9,731	121,151	22,256	177,888
16.	Tobacco (all kinds)	..	..	348,297	..	474,997	..	492,626	..	532,885	..	693,401

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32. Except for the European Estates, which the some extent deal direct with Singapore or Penang, the local weaving industry, and a number of Indian traders in piece goods, trade is entirely in Chinese hands and is conducted through the agency of Chinese firms in Singapore. The bulk of trade is via the Port of Tumpat, which has direct connection by rail with Southern and Western Kelantan, and by both river and rail with the Capital, whence again there is connection by river and road with eastern and central Kelantan, but a proportion of the import and export trade of eastern Kelantan goes and comes via the smaller ports of Semerak and Bachok.

33. No alteration was made in the Excise or Customs Law, or in the duties, rules and restrictions imposed thereby.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS.

34. *Shipping and Ports.* Freight and passenger charges between Kelantan and Singapore are high, considering the shortness of the run (circa 360 miles) but otherwise, unless interrupted by rough weather, sea communications are good and regular. The tonnage of steamers calling during the year was 144,384 tons as against 148,151 tons in 1928 and that of sailing vessels 9,835 tons. Unfortunately the State is entirely without harbours and in rough weather trade is much hampered, despite the operation of an efficient Tug and Lighterage service at Tumpat, by the lack of a sheltered anchorage and by the presence of a bar at each river's mouth.

The two main waterways (Kelantan and Golok rivers) moreover are shallow and difficult of navigation and although the bulk of the heavy goods traffic from the port of Tumpat to the Capital is by the Kelantan river and there are both launches, passenger, and cargo boats plying up the Kelantan river for another 60 miles, these have all to be of very shallow draft, while after the river gets into the hilly country south of Kuala Krai, the difficulties of navigation increase so rapidly that little except small native poling craft can be used. There are 5,206 launches and boats on the local register.

35. *Railways.* The Federated Malay States Railways system ("East Coast Line") gives railway connection (via Siam) with the Western side of the Malay Peninsula, touching the coast at Tumpat and running South into Ulu Kelantan for 63 miles to Manik Urai. The next northerly section of the line, from Manik Urai to Gris (81st mile) was practically complete at the end of the year, as was the Southern Section from the State boundary to Gua Musang. Between these two points construction is well advanced and the gap of 50 miles should be closed in 1931, giving direct connection with the main railway system.

36. *Roads.* With 170 miles of road open for traffic, the North Eastern area of the State is now well served in this respect and the road system connects up with that of the State of Trengganu

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on the East. A road to connect up with the Siamese road system on the West is under construction but otherwise the Western and Southern areas of the State remain unroaded.

37. *Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones.* There are 13 Post Offices or Sub Post Offices in the State and mails (letter post) are despatched daily by rail or sea to the Colony and the Federated Malay States while parcel mails are despatched and received bi-weekly by sea. There is also a bi-weekly mail service to Siam and Trengganu.

When rough weather entails a risk of over carriage the sea service is temporarily suspended and both letters and parcel mails despatched by rail.

The postal rates in force are the same as those of the Straits Settlements and at the larger Post Offices, the usual Money Order, Postal Order and C.O.D. facilities are available. A Post Office Savings Bank was inaugurated in July at Kota Bharu and the public has shown itself very ready to take advantage of this means of thrift.

There are four Telegraph Offices in the State, Kota Bharu, Kuala Krai, Pasir Puteh and Tumpat and telegraphic communication with the outside world via Haadyai in Siam but this service is costly ,(the Siamese charge being six cents per word), and messages are rather liable to delay and mutilation. The Railway Telegraph system within the State is also available. A direct line (via Pahang) is under construction and will, it is hoped, be available in 1931.

There are telephone exchanges in Kota Bharu and Tumpat with connections to Kuala Krai, Pasir Puteh, Pasir Mas and the principal police stations, and extensions of the system are in hand.

38. For the convenience of travellers, fully staffed and furnished Rest Houses are provided by Government at Kota Bharu, Tumpat and Kuala Krai. At these visitors can obtain meals or board and lodging at moderate rates (the inclusive charge for 24 hours is $5/-) but if intending to stay for a longer period than 10 days should seek permission to do so. Permission can also usually be obtained to occupy the sea-side bungalow at Bachok or the Railway Rest Houses at Tumpat, Kuala Krai, and along the construction line.

VII. JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

39. The laws of Kelantan are enacted by His Highness the Sultan in Council with the advice of the British Adviser and are in the main modelled on corresponding legislation in the Federated Malay States, but, they are enacted in Malay which is the official language of the Courts. The legal Code is far from complete and when Kelantan law is silent the principles of English Common Law are applied. The work of making good the deficiency of locally enacted legislation is now in hand and all existing laws and rules have been collected and indexed for reference.

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The Courts as at present established are:—

> The Court of Revision, consisting of His Highness the Sultan in consultation with the British Adviser; the Court of the Judicial Commissioner with unlimited jurisdiction in Criminal Probate and Civil matters as well as on the appellate side (two assessors sitting with the Judicial Commissioner in murder trials); the Courts of Magistrates of the 1st and 2nd Class and the Court of a Penggawa, which latter deals only with petty offences. All Mohammedan religious matters are dealt with by the Kathis' Courts, with an appeal to the Mufti.

The Judicial Commissioner is a Civil Service Officer with legal experience and is also the Legal Adviser. The duties of Public Prosecutor are carried out (in addition to other duties) by one of the other Civil Service Officers stationed in Kota Bharu. Except in the case of the out districts of Ulu Kelantan and Pasir Puteh, where the Civil Service District Officers try some of the more important cases, the lower courts are presided over by Kelantanese Malay Officers. Advocates and Solicitors are not admitted to practice in the Courts except by special permission.

40. In view of its population of over 300,000 the amount of discovered serious crime in the State is almost negligible, only 18 cases being committed to the High Court for trial during 1929. Criminal Appeals from Magistrates Courts dropped from 77 to 68 and of these only 40% were wholly or partly successful as against 52% in 1928. Civil and Land case appeals increased from 108 to 118 but the percentage of success dropped from 39% to 36%. Appeals to the Court of Revision dropped from 37 to 25. One of these was successful on a point of Mohammedan Law and in two cases sentences were reduced, but in the remaining 22 cases the decision of the Judicial Commissioner in his original or appellate jurisdiction was confirmed.

41. There are 25 Police Stations and Police Posts in the State and the Kelantan (Military) Police, with the exception of the Commissioner, is entirely Kelantanese. The authorised strength is 441 and the actual strength 432. Their drill is extremely smart and their musketry excellent. Discipline was good and health on the whole satisfactory. The force provides an excellent Military Band. The Detectives Branch, Fire Brigade, Clerical Staff and supernumeraries number 52; giving a total of 485. The cost of the force, excluding buildings and their upkeep was $240,812.

The number of criminal offences of all classes reported to the Police increased from 1,104 to 1,353 but of these 736 reports were rejected as being fabricated or referring to matters which should be dealt with by summons. The balance of 617 reports resulted in 1,000 arrests and 672 convictions. Under the Small Offences Enactment there were 476 reports and 714 convictions.

Early in the second half of the year there was an outbreak of the old national pastime of cattle lifting (which was however quickly suppressed) and general trade depression resulted in an increase

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of petty thieving but the graver offences of violence were represented only by five reports of Murder, three of Homicide, two of Rape, two of Robbery, two of Gang Robbery, four of Housebreaking by night and 26 of Grievous Hurt.

4,753 firearms, of which 1879 were single barrelled, and 1923 Muzzle-loaders, were licenced. 178 dogs were licenced and 247 destroyed. Rewards were paid for the destruction of 20 tigers.

42. There are three prisons in the State, that at Kota Bharu being both prison and convict establishment, while those at Kuala Krai and Pasir Puteh are used only for short sentence prisoners. The Kota Bharu prison is inspected bi-monthly by Members of the Board of Visiting Justices.

As against 228 at the close of 1928, the total number of prisoners at the end of the year was 224 and of these only 22 were serving sentences of 10 years or over. The majority are Kelantanese, though there is a sprinkling of Chinese, Indians, Siamese and Javanese.

Health was fairly satisfactory, there being no outbreak of infectious disease and only 4 deaths, but discipline was less good than in previous years. It is very difficult to get a Mohammedan Jailer to be strict with a co-religionist prisoner of the same nationality, especially when doing extramural labour and three sub-warders were charged with allowing prisoners to escape from custody, while 35 were punished for minor breaches of discipline.

There were 11 escapes of short sentence prisoners from working gangs with only 3 recaptures, and on October 9th in the small hours of the night, five long-sentence prisoners, (one of whom was already serving a life sentence for gang robbery and homicide), apparently with the connivance of a sub-warder, effected their escape, from Kota Bharu Jail. They procured arms and made off in a gang to the East-ward (presumably for the Trengganu frontier) but had reckoned without the loyalty of the Kelantanese peasant. Intercepted, after they had travelled some 17 miles, by the local Headman and his people and summoned to surrender, they put up a desperate fight and their leader killed one of his would-be captors after a hand to hand struggle. One of the desperados made good his escape. The other four (including the ringleader) were recaptured and handed over to stand their trial. The pluck, loyalty and initiative of their captors has not gone unrewarded.

The short sentence prisoners employed on extramural labour, (Conservancy work, Scavenging, Grass Cutting, Water Carrying, Drain Making, etc.) provided a very useful unpaid labour force and some of those at Kuala Krai, who were put to work on the construction of cement drains and market stalls, acquired considerable skill as working masons.

The long sentence prisoners, confined to the Jail precincts, besides cultivating the Jail Vegetable Garden, earned a revenue of $4,077/- by laundry work, carpentry and chick and basket making.

Sick prisoners were treated in a special Jail-ward of the State Hospital. To the old Jail Hospital, which lies just outside the Jail

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wall, a female ward was added and it was handed over to the Medical Department for the accommodation of mental patients.

VIII. PUBLIC WORKS.

43. The European personnel of the Public Works Department consisted of the State Engineer and three Assistant Engineers, of whom one was in charge of Electric Light, Telegraph and Telephones. The sum allotted to the Department, including revotes was $689,503, of which $539,007 was expended. Works to the value of $26,500 were postponed and $68,995 saved on the estimated cost of the works carried out. The unexpended balance was $55,000, (8%) and the cost of supervision 7.5% of the expenditure. With two exceptions (quarters for the Health Officer and a female ward for mental patients, which were of semi-permanent material) all works completed were permanent, (reinforced concrete or winget block), the main items being; a Customs Wharf at Kota Bharu; three markets; a Post Office at Krai; 270 feet of reinforced concrete bridging and 2,766 feet of drainage. A number of secondary buildings, of similar material (operating theatres, quarters, mortuary etc.) were added to the State Hospital and that at Kuala Krai and a Customs Office and Barracks built at Tumpat.

44. One hundred and seventy miles of road, of which 55½ were metalled, 20 gravelled and 95½ earth road were upkept at a cost of $125,999, or $738 per mile and were, except for short periods when bridges were under repair, kept open for motor traffic throughout the year. Three and a half miles of main roads were metalled and 48,403 square yards of road surface asphalted. The subsidiary roads were greatly improved. The only new road under construction is that from Tanah Merah to Jedok. This road is a continuation of that already constructed from the Trengganu boundary to the Kelantan River following the line of the foot-hills from East to West and will eventually connect up with the Siamese road system on the West, as it already does with the Trengganu road system on the East.

The process of replacing temporary by permanent bridges was continued and three sixty foot reinforced concrete bridges, four double span and one single span ten foot box culverts, (270 feet in all), were completed at a cost of $183 per foot run. Work was also started on a 300 foot steel and concrete suspension bridge over the Nal River, and on two other 40 foot bridges. All these bridges give, or will give, a clear 20 foot road way.

45. The Government Electric supply plant Kota Bharu ran very satisfactorily throughout the year. The running cost, exclusive of depreciation was $19,373 and the revenue collected $24,501. Negotiations for the sale of this commercial undertaking to a registered Company were nearing completion at the end of the year.

IX. PUBLIC HEALTH.

46. The State provides at Kota Bharu, a General Hospital (192 beds) including a second class ward and one for sick prisoners;

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a small European Hospital; a Female Hospital (60 beds) which includes a Malay Ward, a non-Malay Ward, a second class ward and Infant Welfare Centre; a three-ward Mental Hospital and a two-ward Isolation Hospital, also a small Leper Camp; at Kuala Krai a General Hospital (56 beds); at Tumpat a dispensary with a two-bed emergency ward and a quarantine camp and at Pasir Puteh an out-door dispensary. The larger estates (22) provide hospital accommodation and medical attendance for their employees as does also the Railway Department at various points along the line.

The Chief Medical Officer, Health Officer, two European Nursing Sisters and two staff nurses are stationed at Kota Bharu. A private medical practitioner (by arrangement) supervises the hospital at Kuala Krai and another gives assistance, when required, at Kota Bharu.

The State Hospital, Kota Bharu, is in course of rebuilding on the pavilion system and will, when completed, have accommodation for 250 third class patients as well as two second class wards. In this new building 192 beds are already available and during the year an operating theatre, a laboratory, a mortuary, lavatories and quarters for the Senior Assistant and for a dresser were added. Dressers and attendants' quarters were added to the Kuala Krai Hospital. The principal advance made during the year was the opening of the separate Female Hospital and Infant Welfare Centre.

The daily charge for a third class patient is 50 cents but free treatment is given in all indigent cases. The expenditure, exclusive of buildings and their upkeep, increased to $194,054 and has practically doubled in the last five years. The revenue collected amounted to $16,812.

No new legislation was brought into force but new Enactments dealing with Registration of Births and Deaths and Deleterious Drugs were in draft. The passing of the former is a matter of some urgency as the provisions of the existing Enactment are inadequate and it is not possible at present to obtain reliable vital statistics.

47. There has been a very definite improvement in Public Health and the State was again free from epidemics of the more dreaded infectious diseases. Admissions to Government Hospitals decreased by 1,365 to 5,086 and, despite an outbreak of influenza which caused 34 out of a total 160 deaths on Estates, the death rate for Estate labourers (all nationalities) dropped from 43.2 per mille in 1928 to 29.9 per mille and that of Indian Immigrants working on Estates and Railway Construction from 49.4 per mille in 1928 to 32.1 per mille. That the attendances of out-patients at Government dispensaries increased from 75,275 to 77,533 is a sign, not of a deterioration in Public Health, but of increasing faith in European medicines and treatment; over 80% of the outdoor, and 45% of the in-patients treated at the State Hospital, were Malays. The Kelantanese are, on the whole, very willing to accept medical treatment, though less willing to enter hospitals as in-patients: voluntary

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vaccination has wiped out small pox (of which only a single imported case occurred) and voluntary treatment with neosalvarsan (for which 8,266 candidates presented themselves) is wiping out Yaws. All pilgrims to Mecca were innoculated against Cholera as well as being vaccinated.

As elsewhere in Malaya, Malaria is the most serious health problem: 31% of the admissions to Government hospitals, 31.8% of those to Estate hospitals, 52% of those to Railway hospitals and 42.6% of those to the European hospital, being due to this scourge but thanks to drainage, oiling and prophylactic treatment even these figures show an improvement on previous years. Next to Malaria Hook-worm (Ankylostomiasis) is probably the most prevalent disease. The admissions, deaths and death rates for Government hospitals were as under:

Disease.	Number of Admissions.	Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.
Malaria	1427	55	3.85
Ankylostomiasis	265	23	8.67
Pneumonia Lobar	100	34	34.00
Broncho Pneumonia	13	6	46.15
Bronchitis	255	—	—
Dysentery	51	4	7.84
Syphilis	176	—	—
Yaws	653	1	0.15
Ulcers	395	—	—
Beri Beri	48	6	12.5

The Leprosy problem is dealt with by transferring foreign lepers to the Straits Settlements Asylum at Pulau Jerejak. Kelantanese lepers, of whom there are comparatively few, are required (unless indigent, in which case they are accommodated at the Kota Bharu leper camp) to maintain themselves in such isolation as satisfies the requirements of the Health Officer. Only 4 such cases were reported during the year and there was only one occupant of the leper camp.

The more accessible vernacular schools were visited periodically and treatment given to the children on the spot but the key to the health problem in rural areas appears to lie to a great extent with the school teachers and the provision of a staff of teachers trained in hygiene, will not be possible until the students now training are ready to take up their posts.

48. Registration of Births and Deaths was introduced during 1926 but the returns are obviously incomplete and unreliable, especially in urban areas where the population is a mixed one. 3,672 births and 3,201 deaths were registered but both figures are far below the actual totals. For the Indian Immigrant labour forces employed on Estates and Railway Construction, the figures, 114 births and 172 deaths on an average population of 5,355 are no doubt accurate, but the large preponderance of adults and of males over females renders them valueless as an index to the rates among the general population.

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The only immigration and emigration figures available are those for Chinese arriving or leaving by sea: of these 1,406 were immigrants and 1,497 emigrants.

49. *Veterinary.* Six Police Constables were given training in Veterinary work to assist the Veterinary Inspector. There were 27 cases of diagnosed and 22 of suspected anthrax and 494 head of cattle were innoculated aginst that disease. Apart from one case of rabies and an outbreak of fowl cholera there was no other Veterinary disease.

50. The Municipal and Health Enactment (No. 12/1928), which came into force in December 1928, has enabled the Health and District Officers to effect considerable improvements in the sanitation of Urban areas.

X. EDUCATION.

51. *English Education.* In a purely agricultural State with a population of peasant proprietors and Malay as its official language, there are few openings for boys with an English education and all educational authorities are agreed that the establishment of a local Government English School should be postponed until vernacular education is on a firmer basis. To fill future vacancies in the Government Service the English education of 9 students, (3 in Singapore, 5 at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, and one in England), is paid for from the public funds and this number is being increased to 20. The State has also provided a scholarship at Raffles College, Singapore. The Majlis Ugama Islam provides locally teaching in English for 169 boys and maintains one student at Kuala Kangsar and a second at Cairo. There are also small private English Schools for boys and girls at Kota Bharu and Kuala Krai and Government provides evening classes in English at the latter place.

52. *Vernacular Education.* The Government provides 66 Vernacular Schools, which have an enrolment of 3,563 and an average attendance of 2,599 but in the past the teachers have been untrained and the standard of teaching deplorably low. A very definite effort is now being made to improve matters; a fully trained Malay Inspector of Schools and two trained teachers have been borrowed on secondment from the Federated Malay States and 8 student-teachers are in training at Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim. A temporary local training school has also been established in Kota Bharu, at which those of the untrained teachers who appear likely to respond to a course of training are given the opportunity of doing so. The Majlis Ugama also provides vernacular education for 341 boys.

53. *Other Education.* Two students are being trained in the Federated Malay States as mechanics for the Post and Telegraph Department and suitable Kelantanese candidates for training in Forestry and Agricultural are being sought for. Fourteen Estate Schools teach Tamil or Telugu and the Chinese community provide 4 schools for the teaching of Chinese.

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54. The expenditure from public funds on local schools exclusive of buildings and land acquisition was $37,422 and that on education outside the State $14,998. No fees are charged at the Government Schools or classes and the students at the local Training School receive a subsistance allowance.

XI. LAND AND SURVEYS.

A. Land.

55. Land tenure is on the basis of the Torrens Registration system and is similar to that of the Federated Malay States, grants in perpetuity, and leases for a term not exceeding 100 years, being issued for the larger areas of Agricultural and for Town lands, while Asiatic proprietors hold Agricultural lands by Entry in a Mukim Register. Alienated land may be re-entered on behalf of the Ruler of the State if not cultivated in accordance with the terms of the title or sold by public auction if the quit rent thereon remains unpaid. In the case of country lands of less than 100 acres in area the rate of annual rent imposed varies from 40 cents to $2.50 per acre and is based on the purpose for which the land is alienated and the amenities thereof, while premium on alienation, including the cost of Survey and Boundary marks, ranges from $2 to $25 per acre. Town lands are alienated by auction and carry a minimum rent of $5 per acre, while on Country Lands exceeding 10 acres in area, rent is at $1 per acre for six years and thereafter $3, and premium varies from $10 to $50 per acre. Specially reduced terms are however granted if land is taken up for the cultivation of new economic products or for grazing. Minor amendments to the present Land Enactment (No. 3/26) have been made, and the passing of a more elaborate Land Code is contemplated, but no basic alteration of the land tenure system is proposed.

56. Since the passing of a Land Enactment in 1926, the chief task of the Land Officers in the coastal districts has been to get existing occupation settled and surveyed and the proprietors entered in the Settlement and Mukim Registers and it is one which, owing to the enormous number of holdings to be dealt with, will take years to complete. Cases of disputed ownership on the ground are rare, as the existing plane-table survey is rather one of actual occupation than of title, but survey by title will be a very lengthy and costly process and, (except in the sub-district of Bachok where the work is three-fourths complete,) there is a heterogeneous collection of old documents of title to be replaced by Entries in the Mukim Registers.

In the Ulu Kelantan District, where flood and fire destroyed practically all records in 1926, the task is a different one and is being dealt with area by area, the claims of the small holders, who previously paid only an annual produce tax, being defined by boundary marks and the produce tax commuted to an annual quit rent.

With a large peasant population of small landed proprietors the investigation and registration of claims to succeed to deceased owners will always remain a heavy tax on the time of the Land Officers.

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57. With the fall in the price of rubber, the demand for new land decreased and the year's agricultural alienation was only 6,676 acres, of which 4,657 were for rubber, 1,775 for rice and 244 for fruit orchards. "Land Sales" also dropped from $95,917 to $71,270 as against an estimate of $87,000 and even exclusive of "Land Sales," Land Revenue, which has previously shown a steady expansion, as under, slightly decreased:

1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
$	$	$	$	$
385,549	413,659	450,845	479,616	477,223

Inclusive of grazing land and of the 50,000 acres to which the Duff Development Company Limited are entitled, the total alienated area is 476,589 acres or just over 13 per cent of the area of the State and although in the Northern Districts there is little land left for alienation, there are large tracts in the Southern and Western Districts which have as yet scarcely been explored.

58. There are District Land Offices at Kuala Krai, Pasir Puteh, Pasir Mas and Bachok and a combined Land and Registration Office at Kota Bharu, where all grants, leases and mining titles are registered. There were already 1,536 Grants for Land on the register and a further 434 were registered during the year.

59. With a rather more definite wet and dry season than the West of the Peninsula, and, in Southern Kelantan, large tracts of rich, though usually somewhat broken land, at all altitudes up to 6,000 feet available for settlement and now for the first time becoming accessible, the State appears to offer attractions to the tropical agriculturist. To protect the interests of the Kelantanese peasant proprietor, it is enacted that all transfers from Kelantanese to Non-Kelantanese and all applications for new land by Non-Kelantanese require the approval of His Highness the Sultan in Council but where the interests of Kelantanese are not jeopardised, such approval is readily given.

B. SURVEYS.

60. The European staff consisted of the Superintendent, an Assistant Superintendent (Office) and a Surveyor in the field; the Asiatic staff of an average of 8.7 Surveyors in the field and 3 Senior and 20.3 Junior subordinates in the Office.

The Expenditure was $101,129 (including leave pay and passage money to European Officers) of which Administration represented 13%, Office Work 31%, and Field Work 50%. Purchase of Instruments and leave pay to European staff accumulated for the remaining 6%.

On the revenue side, survey fees amounted to $14,345, work done free for other departments to $2,697 and the sale of maps etc. to $938, making a total of $17,980.

The principal items of survey completed included 259 Town Lots, 99 agricultural holdings covering 9,513 acres and 2,329 small holdings with an area of 5,007 acres. 34 miles of traverses were

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run and 6 miles of the Kelantan River were surveyed in connection with a scheme for prevention of erosion.

The shortage of efficient technical subordinates is still very marked and arrears are consequently increasing. Unsatisfied requisitions total 464 Town lots, 14,677 small holdings, 260 agricultural holdings, 96 subdivisions and 3 miscellaneous.

The non-completion of these surveys does not however imply that applicants for land are kept waiting indefinitely, most of these blocks being already demarcated and occupied under provisional titles.

C. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

61. The geological survey of the State was completed during the year and an up-to-date geological map on a scale of 12 miles to an inch is available but the report which is being prepared in connection with the map has not yet been published. Both gold and tin have at times been worked with success on a small scale by Asiatic methods and although large scale mining has hitherto been a failure, there is a fair probability that, with improved facilities for transport and prospecting, deposits of these metals in sufficient quantity to justify large scale workings may be found in the main granite range which separates the State from those of Perak and Pahang or in that which forms its boundary with Trengganu. Several considerable deposits of iron-ore and one of Tungsten have been located by prospectors.

XII. LABOUR.

62. The native Kelantanese is a good worker and if properly handled is quick to learn. Boat building is an ancestral trade at which he is very expert and as carpenter, mason or mechanic he is little, if at all, inferior to the Chinese. As in the case of the Javanese, economic pressure has prevented the Kelantanese peasant of the coastal plain from adopting the easy-going philosophy of the West Coast Malay and the Government employs Kelantanese exclusively for all public works.

63. The Federated Malay States Railways (East Coast line) employ both Kelantanese, Chinese, Tamils, Telegu and Northern Indians while the estates employ chiefly Tamils and Telegus but have recently evinced a tendency to substitute Chinese and Kelantanese labour. Except for Indian Immigrant Labour no detailed figures are available.

64. The Kelantan Indian Immigration Enactment (2/27) as amended by Enactment (10/28), together with the rules made thereunder, brings the State into line with the rest of Malaya in respect of Indian Immigrant Labour and in August an (Indian) Extra Assistant Controller of Labour was seconded from the Federated Malay States Labour Department to assist the Controller, Kelantan, (who is also District Officer, Ulu Kelantan) in enforcing the legal provisions made and protecting the interests of Indian Immigrant Labour.

The employment of labour, other than Indian Immigrant Labour, is regulated by the labour (Non-Indian) Enactment No. 13/28.

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65. As against 25 in 1928, only 22 Rubber Estates employed wholly or purely Indian Immigrant labourers and their numbers decreased from 3,993 in 1928 to 3,741 at the close of 1929. The number employed by the Railway Department however increased from 1,287 to 1,614, giving a total for the State of 5,355 of whom 4,189 were males and 1,166 females. Northern Indians are not classed as Indian Immigrant Labourers and are not included in these figures.

66. Despite the wide spread depression in the rubber industry, a great effort has been made by all employers of Indian Immigrant Labour to improve labour conditions and the health of their labour forces and the lot of this labourer in Kelantan is now a happy one: provision for housing, hospital accommodation, water supplies, Anti-Malarial measures and labourers' gardens having reached a very high standard. These efforts have been rewarded by a steadily decreasing death rate: that for Estate labourers (all nationalities) being reduced from 60.1 in 1927, 43.2 in 1928 to 29.9 per mille and that for Indian Immigrants working on Estates and Railway Construction work from 49.4 in 1928 to 32.1 per mille.

67. 20 Estates now have their own hospitals and all provide free medical attendance. Fourteen estates also provide schools for the labourers' children.

68. As from July 1929 minimum standard wages for Indian Labourers (58 cents per day for men and 46 cents per day for women) were prescribed by-law in the inland districts of Kelantan. On most Estates however good workers earn considerably more: factory coolies being paid up to 80 cents per day and expert tappers up to 65 cents. The Government rate of pay for all classes of unskilled labour varies from 50 to 58 cents per day according to district. Skilled labour of all sorts, naturally, commands much higher rates, a skilled carpenter or mason, for example, earning from $1.00 to $2.00 per day.

69. Toddy shops, under the strict control of the Estate management are licensed on eleven Estates. One-fifth of the gross proceeds is paid to Government by way of excise: and the remaining 4/5th, after the deduction of the out of pocket expenses, is expended for the benefit of the labourers themselves by way of contributions to the " Temple " or other similar funds.

70. Chinese, for the most part, work on contract, and not on daily wages as also do Northern Indians.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS.

71. His Highness the Sultan takes a deep personal interest in all matters affecting the welfare of his State and his people and presided at all but 2 of the 13 meetings of the State Council. His Highness was in residence in Kelantan throughout the year and besides official inspections of Hospitals, Schools, new buildings and Town Improvements and an official trip over the Railway Construction line as far as Kuala Pergau (between which point and Kuala Gris the longest Railway tunnel in Malaya is under construction)

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paid a number of informal visits to various out-districts. Among these was included one to the Farrer Falls and Farrer "Wakaf," the former of which was named and the latter built (at the expense of his parents) to commemorate the outstanding work of the late Mr. R. G. B. Farrer, M.C.S., as District Officer, Pasir Puteh.

72. The State Mosque in Kota Bharu, which has been for so many years under construction, is nearing completion and will be a most imposing building. The strict conformance to Islamic Rules of the Kelantanese is a guarantee that it will not lack worshippers.

73. Armistice Day and His Highness the Sultan's Birthday were observed in the customary manner, Guards of Honour being provided by the Kelantan Military Police.

74. The number of Malayan Civil Service Officers seconded for service remains unchanged at six, but the Administrative work has been redistributed and the present appointments are:

(1.) British Adviser to the Government of Kelantan.

(2.) Judicial Commissioner and Legal Adviser Kelantan.

(3.) Assistant Adviser, Superintendent of Lands and Registrar of Titles Kelantan.

(4.) State Treasurer and District Officer Kota Bharu and Pasir Puteh.

(5.) District Officer, Ulu Kelantan, and Controller of Labour.

(6.) Superintendent Marine and Customs, Superintendent of Chandu, Superintendent of Posts and Telegraphs, Public Prosecutor and Auditor.

There was however a shortage of Malayan Civil Service Officers and for several months in the year one or other of the latter four posts remained unfilled.

75. The undersigned held the post of British Adviser throughout the year.

R. J. B. CLAYTON, M.C.S.

British Adviser to the Government of Kelantan.

THE RESIDENCY,

KELANTAN.

5th March, 1930.

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE

LIABILITIES.	AMOUNT.	TOTAL.
DEPOSITS:—	$	$
Ulu Kelantan District Treasury	64,137	
Pasir Puteh, District Treasury	6,247	
Courts, Kota Bharu	23,490	
Police Fines and Rewards Fund	139	
Prison Fines and Rewards Fund	115	
Clerks' Fines and Rewards Fund	211	
Customs' Fines and Rewards Fund	59	
Police Sundry deposit	937	
Prison Sundry deposit	70	
Customs' Sundry Deposit	527	
Land Office. Kota Bharu, Sundry Deposit ..	36,392	
Land Office, Kota Bharu, Survey Deposit ..	13,235	
Land Office, Pasir Mas, Sundry Deposit ..	29,732	
Land Office, Pasir Mas, Survey Deposit ..	1,536	
Clerks' Security Deposit	4,796	
Suspense Account Deposit	15,040	
Pawn Broking Farm Deposit	9,030	
Toddy Farm Deposit	1,850	
Office Mentri Deposit	1,323	
Distressed Kelantanese in Mecca	1,228	
New Mosque	727	
Money Order	9,824	
Survey Office	9	
Office Istia'adat	792	
		221,446
LOANS:—		
Loan owing to the Straits Settlements bearing interest @ 5%	200,000	
Loan owing to the Straits Settlements free of interest for five years (1926—1931) ..	3,880,684	
		4,080,684
TOTAL		4,302,130

*Figures given to

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A.

STATE OF KELANTAN AS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1929.

ASSETS.	AMOUNT.	TOTAL.
BALANCES:—	$	$
State Treasury, Kota Bharu	268	
Cash—District Treasury, Ulu Kelantan ..	1,539	
Do. Pasir Puteh ..	5,683	
		7,490
Bank—Mercantile Bank Current Account ..	660,434	
Do. Fixed deposit ..	15,000	
Chartered Bank Current Account ..	8,740	
		684,174
ADVANCES RECOVERABLE:—		
Public Works Department Store Account ..	12,000	
Do. Factory Account	11,700	
Do. on account of metal Contract	5,563	
Clubs	5,730	
Advance to Government Officers	71,500	
Postal Order Account	400	
His Highness the Raja Kelantan	5,600	
Majlis Ugama	80,000	
Dato' Kaya Pathi (Towkay Yeap Hong Ghee) Building loan	30,000	
Tengku Sri Mara Raja, Building loan	25,000	
Syed Hussin, Building Loan	15,000	
		262,493
INVESTMENT AT COST:—		
8,000 Duff Development Company's Shares @ $5/- each	40,000	
£25,000 of British War Loan Bearer Bonds (1929—1947)	219,239	
		259,239
		1,213,396
Balance to the debit of the State		3,088,734
TOTAL		4,302,130

the nearest dollar.

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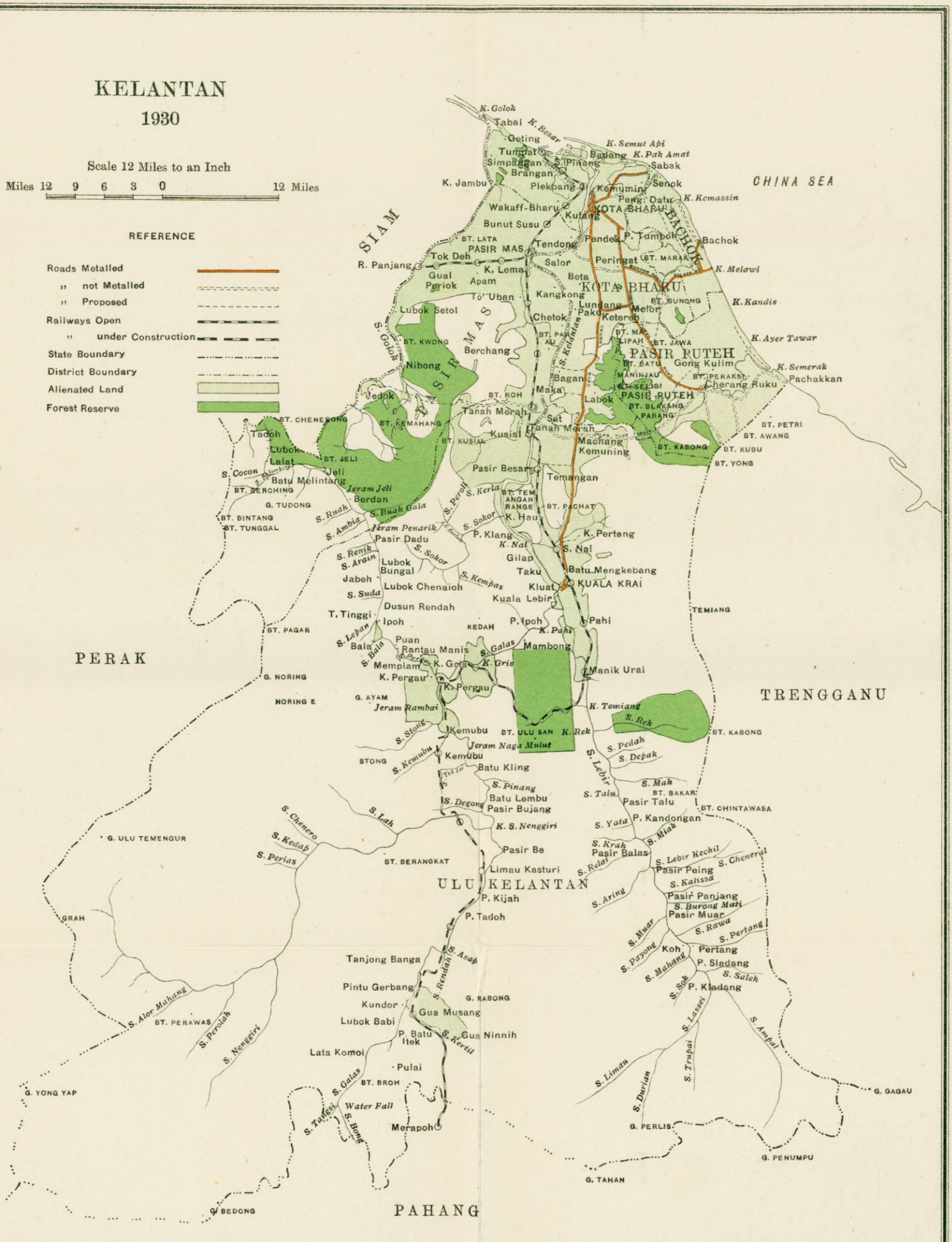

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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SOMALILAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1929.

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PREFACE.

History.

1. Prior to 1884 the administration of the Somali Coast had been in the hands of the Egyptian Government. Upon its collapse in 1884, a Protectorate was proclaimed by Great Britain over what is now recognised as British Somaliland, and the boundaries were settled by agreements with France, Italy, and Abyssinia. Until 1898 the Protectorate was administered by the Resident at Aden as a Dependency of the Government of India. In that year it was transferred to the charge of the Foreign Office, and on 1st April, 1905, to the Colonial Office.

From 1901 to 1920 the history of the Protectorate is largely a history of campaigns against Mohammed-bin-Abdulla Hassan, the "Mad Mullah." In 1901, 1902, and 1903, expeditions were sent against the Mullah, and in January, 1904, a crushing defeat was inflicted on him at Jidballeh. He then retired into Italian territory and claimed Italian protection. An agreement was made between him and the Italian Government, but the Mullah soon disregarded this agreement and commenced further aggressive actions against the tribes under British protection.

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In 1908, arrangements were made for another expedition against him, but before the expedition was launched a policy of coastal concentration was adopted. In March, 1910, all troops were withdrawn from the country, except for small garrisons at the three ports of Berbera, Bulharm, and Zeilah. This policy did not prove a success, and in 1912-13 the strict coastal concentration was abandoned and administration in the interior gradually resumed. From 1914, desultory fighting continued until 1920, when a combined attack with land and air forces completely scattered the Mullah and his followers and captured all his forts and possessions. The Mullah fled, a broken man, into Abyssinia, where he died in February, 1921.

In recent years, conditions have been peaceful with the exception of inter-tribal cattle raids both in the Protectorate and outside its borders. As indulgence in these is the hereditary pastime of all Somalis, both British-protected and otherwise, they need not be regarded very seriously, as they can be checked, and are being checked, by extension of administration.

Geography.

2. The Protectorate of British Somaliland has for its northern boundary about 450 miles of coast-line on the Gulf of Aden and extends from Loyi Ada (Hadu), longitude 43° 15′ East, as far as the forty-ninth degree of East longitude, close to the town of Banda Ziada.

The Protectorate marches with Italian Somaliland from Banda Ziada to a point in latitude 8° North ; thence with Abyssinia as far as Jalelo, and with French Somaliland from Jalelo to Loyi Ada on the coast.

The area of the Protectorate is about 68,000 square miles. It consists of a coastal plain varying from half a mile to 60 miles in depth, an escarpment precipitous at the eastern end, more gentle in the west, rising from 5,000 feet to 7,000 feet, and an interior plateau sloping gently south and east to Italian Somaliland and the Abyssinian Haud. The coastal plain is hot and the rainfall as a rule is sparse. The escarpment catches the rain and on the summit are to be found areas of cedar forest. The interior plateau consists in the main of level, bush-covered country interspersed with kopjes or even small detached masses of hills and with large open plains free from bush and covered with grass. The country is primarily camel country owing to the scanty water supply, but cattle thrive, especially in the hills, and sheep and goats also do excellently so long as the rainfall is up to the average.

The chief ports are Berbera, Bulhar, Zeilah, and Las Khoreh.

There is a weekly steamer service from Aden.

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Climate.

3. Somaliland has a small but fairly regular rainfall. The dry season lasts from December to March, during which period there is practically no rain. The big rains fall during April and May and they are succeeded by the S.W. monsoon (called locally the *kharif*), which blows from June till October—the hottest period of the year. The *kharif* is very trying to Europeans, particularly on the coast, where the heat and dust make concentrated work difficult.

On the higher ground in the interior the heat is at no time intolerable and the nights are generally cool.

From November to March the climate is quite pleasant, the heat on the coast being tempered by the sea breeze.

The rainfalls in the country are very local and consequently there is often considerable variation in local conditions as to grazing, rainpools, etc.

The Medical Department undertake the collection of meteorological statistics, and these are as follows :—

Station.	*Total Rainfall.*	*Mean Maximum.*	*Mean Minimum.*	*Absolute Maximum Temperature.*	*Absolute Minimum Temperature.*	*Total Rainfall.*			
						1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
	Inches	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Fahr.	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Berbera ...	0·37	93·0	78·6	109	63	1·09	2·02	6·54	0·54
Burao ...	9·25	85·1	63·2	94	51	9·07	9·78	12·30	11·89
Sheikh ...	25·04	78·2	55·6	91	39	19·90	11·70	27·38	20·59
Hargeisa ...	17·07	85·4	56·9	93	35	12·45	14·58	31·91	16·39
Zeilah ...	1·81	94·4	75·9	111	62	3·08	8·42	10·81	2·04
Buramo ...	16·42	77·4	59·0	87	44	15·99	19·79	27·79	23·24
Erigavo ...	11·90	77·7	51·0	85	37	10·50	15·29	18·34	12·62

Currency.

4. The monetary unit is the Government of India rupee and subsidiary coinage, consisting of 1 pie, 1 pice, 1, 2, 4, and 8 anna pieces. Government of India currency notes are in circulation.

The rupee maintained throughout the year the Government of India stabilised rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* with but insignificant variations.

Weights and Measures.

5. The Imperial standard of weights and measures is in force. The Indian and Somali traders also use certain of the weights and measures in force in British India.

Language.

6. The language is Somali, but the natives are capable linguists, and English, Arabic, and Hindustani are spoken in the coastal towns.

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I.—GENERAL.

7. The Protectorate is administered by the Governor and in his absence by the Secretary to the Government. There is no Executive or Legislative Council. The powers of the Governor are defined in the Somaliland Order in Council, 1929, which consolidated all previous Orders in Council, omitting matters which had become irrelevant or out of date.

Departments of Government.

8. The Departments of Government whose headquarters are at Berbera are those dealing with Finance, Police and Prisons, Medical services, Customs, Posts and Telegraphs, and Public Works. The headquarters of the Veterinary Department are at Burao, and those of the Geological and Agricultural Department are at Hargeisa, where they are nearer the centre of their respective activities.

Military Garrison.

9. The Military Garrison of the Protectorate consists of the Somaliland Camel Corps, King's African Rifles, with headquarters at Burao and a detachment at Hargeisa.

Two aeroplanes of the Aden Squadron, Royal Air Force, are stationed in Somaliland. Aerodromes are maintained at Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, Zeilah, and Erigavo; and landing grounds at Baran, Aik, Halin, and Las Anod.

District Administration.

10. For administrative purposes the Protectorate has been divided into five districts each of which is in charge of a Commissioner. The five districts are :—

Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, and Zeilah.

Political Situation.

11. The good rains of the autumn of 1928 mentioned in the last report were repeated in 1929. It is many years since the Somalis have enjoyed such wealth of grazing even in spite of successive waves of locust invasion. As a result the Administration was on the qui vive for internal trouble and intersectional fighting, since it is axiomatic of Somaliland that fighting may be anticipated in direct proportion to the amount of milk available in the villages. The young Somali's instinct as soon as he is well fed is to go and raid someone, a pastime comparable to the more homely man's day at Lords' or the Cup Final or more nearly perhaps to the Irishman's Donnybrook Fair.

12. But in 1929 the Administration was agreeably disappointed as the tribes remained comparatively quiet throughout the year. This

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satisfactory result may have been due to the loss of stock during the previous two years, which reduced materially the amount of milk available per person or it may have been due to the presence on the frontier of a Boundary Commission with its attendant escort of Camel Corps and large personnel of white officers. It is probable that both these causes contributed to keeping the people quiet, but the main cause is to be sought in the extension of the power of the Administration in Somaliland itself and the growth of settled administration in neighbouring territories, which has made it more difficult for offenders to find a safe asylum across the frontier.

The only serious outbreak occurred between two sections of the Habr Yunis who are comparatively closely akin and moreover more sophisticated than any other sections in the Protectorate. This incident was punished by a heavy fine of rifles on both sections.

13. One Company of the Somaliland Camel Corps was employed until September in the western part of the Protectorate but they were not actually engaged in any punitive work except for one short patrol in January. The need for Camel Corps action could be traced directly to the drought because loss of stock had caused the formation on the western frontier of bands of " buraad " or highway robbers who were driven to this mode of life by famine. These robbers attacked caravans travelling from Jibuti or Zeilah to the interior. They were operating equally in British, French, and Abyssinian territory and were drawn from and assisted by all, but chiefly the rer Kul, sections of the Esa tribe who were grazing along the caravan road. A strong patrol of Camel Corps passed through the country in January and exacted a fine from those sections who were known to be supplying the " buraad ", and the bands themselves were successfully dispersed. A company of the Camel Corps remained inactive in the district for most of the year until the payment of the fine was complete.

14. About the middle of the year mild excitement was occasioned by the reported appearance from the Ogaden country of a " wadad " (Somali priest) who was said to have proclaimed himself to be the successor of the Mad Mullah. Rumour credited him with the possession of a four-eared pony — the sign by which the Mad Mullah's successor would be known—and he was reported to have displayed signs and performed miracles proving that he was the Hadi (spiritual leader). The story goes that at one place a meeting of Somalis was held to decide whether they should apprehend him and hand him over to the Government, or whether he should be given a wife in order to prove if he was heaven-sent or earth-born. The latter course was decided on, whereupon the wadad, breathing an incantation, was taken by the wind and disappeared. He was generally regarded as a rogue playing on the simplicity of the ignorant in order to obtain food from them. He appears to have aroused little interest and to have returned to the Ogaden country.

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Abyssinia.

15. Inter-tribal raiding unfortunately continued during the greater part of the year between the British Isaak Somalis and the Abyssinian Ogaden. A further meeting at Daghabur between representatives of the tribes failed to produce any lasting settlement. The situation was discussed with the Abyssinian authorities during a visit paid by the Governor to Addis Ababa in October. The Abyssinian authorities showed a genuine desire to co-operate in the closer control of frontier tribes, and by the end of the year there were indications that this policy would be successfully pursued.

An Ethiopian Consul was appointed to Hargeisa and a company was formed to build a road and operate motor transport from Jijiga to Hargeisa and Berbera, and also from Daghabur in the Ogaden country to Jijiga.

Anglo-Italian Boundary.

16. As was stated in the Report for 1928, an Anglo-Italian Boundary Commission was appointed, following negotiations between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Italian Government, to demarcate the boundary line between British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. Before the appointment of the Commission, two British Army officers were placed at the disposal of the Somaliland Government, and commenced work in January, 1929, on a preliminary survey to locate the boundary. Two Italian officers were similarly engaged in Italian territory. The British party were able to reach the neighbourhood of Bihen from the coast by the end of July. In August, the British Section of the Boundary Commission under Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Stafford, M.C., R.E. arrived in the country and was concentrated at Baran (Sorl) by the beginning of September. The Italian concentration was completed in October. Combined work began in the first week in October, and by the end of December, 1929, the frontier had been demarcated from the coast, with the exception of the Bandar Ziada Enclave, as far south as the Baran Tug.

It was arranged that, to facilitate the work of the Commission, maps should be prepared of the boundary from photographs taken from the air by British and Italian aeroplanes. An Air Survey Flight arrived at Baran from Aden at the end of November and began work in December.

To assist in the work of the Joint Commission tracks were made to connect Baran with Las Dowa, on the Italian side, and Bihen with Geroweh. (It is now possible to go by motor-car from Berbera to Nairobi via Mogadiscio).

It is anticipated that the work of the Commission in the field will be completed in September, 1930.

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A sub-commission of the Boundary Commission has been charged with the work of investigating claims and counter-claims arising from inter-tribal raiding across the frontier in recent years, and to recommend a settlement to the British and Italian Governments.

Drought.

17. The gleam of hope in the shape of rains, referred to in the previous report, was amply realised by the most plentiful rainfall for several years. As a result grazing everywhere was good and plentiful, with consequent benefit to stock. Reports from one district show that since the drought ewes have bred twice and goats four times and that, even allowing for the natural depletion of stock due to disease, accidents, slaughter, etc., the number of sheep and goats is now 25 per cent. more than at the end of the drought. At the same time, so severe was the drought and so far reaching its ravages, that several years must pass before a complete recovery can be attained.

The Relief Camp at Bulhar remained open during the year and destitutes from all parts of the country continued to be sent there to be fed and housed at Government expense. By the end of the year the camp contained the following numbers :—

Men	1,225
Women	3,086
Children	2,183
Total	6,494

a reduction of 8,794 from its maximum of 15,288.

II.—FINANCE.

18. Trade in the Protectorate was, as had been anticipated, adversely affected as an aftermath of the 1927–1928 drought. There was always a sufficiency of currency obtainable locally for the needs of Government but the amount normally spent by the native population on clothes and luxuries was necessarily converted into food as an alternative to realisation of the very much reduced flocks and herds, which form the means of livelihood of the large majority of the population.

Revenue.

19. The revenue of the Protectorate for the year amounted to Rs. 14,10,414 (£105,781) showing a decrease of Rs. 6,89,417 (£51,706) as compared with the 1928 collections. The principal sources of revenue were as follows :—

Customs, Rs. 10,61,032 (£79,577), a decrease of Rs. 5,63,964 (£42,297).

Licences, Excise, etc., Rs. 1,62,682 (£12,201), a decrease of Rs. 1,32,659 (£9,950).

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Fees of Court, etc., Rs. 99,637 (£7,473), a decrease of Rs. 2,189 (£164).

Posts and Telegraphs, Rs. 24,442 (£1,833), a decrease of Rs. 7,023 (£527).

Revenue from Government Property, Rs. 6,093 (£457), a decrease of Rs. 4,353 (£326).

The foregoing statistics reflect a considerable shrinkage of revenue during the past year but an even larger setback had been anticipated as, during the 1927–1928 drought, enormous numbers of animals died or were slaughtered and, consequently, destitution was rife during 1929. Revenue collections during the year 1928 were unprecedently high as a result of the enforced sale of very large numbers of skins and the import of foodstuffs and, therefore, the decreases shewn in the revenue for the year 1929 may be largely discounted.

The revenue of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :

		£	
1925–1926	April to March	89,057	Re. 1=Shillings
1926–1927		90,569	1*s.* 4*d.*
1927 ...	January to December	124,452	
1928 ...		157,487	Re. 1=Shillings
1929 ...		105,781	1*s.* 6*d.*

Public Debt.

20. The net sum due by the Protectorate to the Imperial Treasury on 31st December, 1929, was £134,000. This sum represents the loan-in-aid of civil expenditure for the financial years 1921–1922, 1922–1923, 1923–1924, 1924–1925; the nine months April–December, 1927, and the twelve months January to December, 1928. The loan-in-aid actually received in 1928 was £5,250. For the years 1925–1926 and 1926–1927 the deficiency between revenue and civil expenditure was met from surplus balances.

The loan-in-aid is subject to repayment with interest as and when the finances of the Protectorate permit. No re-payment has yet been made.

In addition to the loans-in-aid the Protectorate is in receipt of an annual free grant-in-aid of actual military expenditure.

The grant paid in 1929 was £95,000. This sum included £40,000 of the 1928 grant not paid over before 1st January, 1929. The total granted since 1st April, 1921, is £480,000.

Expenditure.

21. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 27,60,890 (£207,067) as compared with a total of Rs. 26,48,372 (£198,628) for 1928.

Of the year's expenditure some £24,000 was due to the famine, £19,000 being expended on direct relief and £5,000 on additional measures to cope with crime caused by the famine.

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The expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years is as follows :—

		Civil. £	*Military.* £	*Total.* £	
1925–26	April to	103,288	64,667	167,955	at Re. 1
1926–27	March.	100,175	48,950	149,125	= Shgs. 1/4.
1927 ...	January	116,617	54,490	171,107	at Re. 1
1928 ...	to	135,003	63,625	198,628	= Shgs. 1/6.
1929 ...	December.	152,614	54,453	207,067	

Financial Position on 31st December, 1929.

22. The abstract of revenue and expenditure is as follows :—

	£	£
Surplus on 1st January, 1929		40,651
Revenue—		
Civil	105,151	
Military	630	
		105,781
*Grant-in-Aid of Military Expenditure paid within the year		95,000
		£241,432
Expenditure—	£	£
Civil	152,614	
Military	54,453	
		207,067
Surplus at 31st December, 1929		34,365
		£241,432

Banking.

23. There are no banks established in the Protectorate, but a branch of the commercial firm of Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, Bombay, accepts deposits from private individuals, cashes cheques drawn on them, and arranges the transfer of funds to the United Kingdom and elsewhere through a branch of the firm at Aden.

There are no banking laws in force.

* Includes £40,000 of 1928 Grant-in-Aid not paid over before 1st January, 1929.

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III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

24. In July a Somali Inspector of Gardens was appointed. At present his duties are to ascertain in each district the position of all areas under cultivation, the number of plots, the condition of the areas or plots, i.e., whether marked off with zaribas or otherwise, whether at present cultivated, temporarily abandoned owing to the drought, or permanently abandoned, and whether new areas are taken up. Before the end of the year more than half of the Hargeisa District had been inspected and reports furnished. The information obtained will be of service in connection with the Agricultural Census of 1930, and especially in regard to the programme of work which it is the intention of the Director to begin upon next year.

25. To mitigate to some extent the effect of the drought of 1927–1928, arrangements were made for the issue by the Government, under certain conditions, of seed Sorghum (called locally *jowari*) to those plot-owners who, by some means or other, would be able to cultivate at least part of their holding. Fortunately, experiments had proved that one Indian variety of the grain—the Sholapuri—was suitable to the conditions, possessed a type of grain of which the natives approved, grew quickly and matured early. A consignment, therefore, of seven and a-half tons of this variety was ordered from the Surat Farm in India, and the whole of it was distributed in the course of three weeks. Care was taken that each owner of a plot received in his own hands a quantity sufficient to sow the amount of ground he was capable of cultivating. No seed whatever was handed over to headmen or akils for distribution to their section. A note was kept of the name and tribe of each recipient and of the amount of seed issued to him, so that a return in cash or kind could be called for from each owner after he had reaped his crop. In some cases, of course, the grain was eaten instead of being sown, but these cases were in a minority. Some sowed it at once, others held it over for a month or two. Although, as the result of the ravages of locust hoppers, the young crops in April and May were to a greater or less extent eaten down, a fair proportion of them recovered. The damage done to the full grown crops by the adult locusts which followed the hoppers in July and August was comparatively small.

26. A pleasing feature of the distribution of this variety of jowari is the fact that there is a demand amongst the natives who have seen it grow for seed of it for next year's crop.

27. Experimental plots have been established, where tests have been made with lucerne, varieties of sorghum from India and the Gambia, groundnuts from the Gambia, gram and kulthi from India, Sudan grass, potatoes, and with a number of fruit plants and

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introduced forest trees. Specimens of the stems, leaves, and fruits of "Adad" and "Jalefan" were collected and sent to the Botanic Gardens, Kew, for determination and arrangements are being made with the Sudan Government for two selected Arabic-speaking Somalis to be sent there for training in the proper method of tapping gum trees, grading and preparing gum for sale and, if possible, in the planting of new areas. Samples of the Ye'eb nuts (*Cordeauxia edulis*) have been sent to Kew and elsewhere, and samples of a milky latex—the product of the Enjir ("rubber") tree, which grows 20 miles south-east of Burao—have been sent to the Imperial Institute for report. A collection of native pasture grasses has also been made and submitted to Kew for identification and a sample of the favourite fodder grass Daremo (*Andropogen Aucheri*) has been sent for examination, as to its mineral composition, by the Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen.

28. *Locusts.*—Very early in the year, comparison of the characters of the swarming locusts of the Protectorate with those of specimens obtained from Kenya, and with those in published descriptions of different genera and species, established the identity of the local form with Schistocerca gregaria, the desert locust of Northern Africa, Arabia, and Kenya, and the identification was confirmed by determinations of young specimens at the London Bureau of Entomology.

29. No money was available for active preventive measures against the pest and efforts were therefore directed only to collecting information as to habits, etc., which might assist in a correct interpretation of swarm movements and habits. Hoppers appeared in practically every district in the Protectorate in enormous numbers. Practically all gardens were denuded up to the end of August and it was only the exceptionally heavy growth of grass which averted another famine.

At the end of the year the pest appeared to be abating.

Veterinary.

30. During the year the country has been entirely free from rinderpest. The one remaining focus of pleuro-pneumonia-contagiosa referred to in last year's report was stamped out, but unfortunately a fresh outbreak occurred in June, the disease being introduced from Abyssinia. By the end of the year as a result of quarantine and vaccination methods the outbreak had been confined to two small foci.

31. Mange is now practically non-existent, the result of a more thorough use of the sheep dip at Hargeisa and of the hand-dressing issued to natives. The experimental treatment of ulcerative cellulitis was found very efficacious in the few cases treated, but much more experience is needed before a definite opinion as to its real value can be given.

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At the end of the year a serious outbreak of *surra* (trypanosomiasis in camels) was reported from the Eastern area. It is assumed provisionally that infection is brought by trading camels from the Webi Shabelli and transmitted mechanically by ticks as tsetse flies are not found in the infected area. The outbreak is being dealt with at the time of writing.

32. The general condition of the animals is excellent, and, the climatic conditions having been exceptionally good, the general outlook for animal husbandry is excellent.

Fisheries.

33. The sea on the coast-line of the Protectorate is well stocked with fish of all kinds and several applications for fishing concessions have been received during the last few years.

There is a native pearl fishery at Zeilah. The divers run their own boats and sell the pearls to Jewish merchants in Jibuti in French Somaliland and in Aden. The local conditions would make it very difficult for a European firm to compete in this industry.

Minerals.

34. *Gold and Platinum.*—The samples collected in 1928 during the investigation of the area extending from Haduya to Tug Had were assayed at the Imperial Institute with the following results :—

> " No. 2. A sand concentrate from Tug Had. Gold present, but in quantity less than one grain per ton.
>
> " No. 6. Quartz veins at Haduya, along joint planes which traverse the slates at right angles to the strike.
>
> Gold present to the extent of about two grains per ton."

The report proceeded :—

> " In the case of sample No. 14, ferruginous vesicular quartz from lenses in the slates on the north-east side of Haduya, platinum group metals amounting to 20 grains per ton were found in the first portion of the sample assayed, but although the assay was repeated three times, negative results were obtained from the remainder of the sample. The precious metals found in the first assay were proved to consist mainly of platinum, the identity of this element being unquestionable.
>
> " It is extremely unlikely that the platinum could have been introduced adventitiously into the sample at the Imperial Institute, and it is difficult to account for its presence in only one portion of the sample other than by concluding either that the platinum was present as a single grain, or that at some stage of the collection or packing of the material a fragment of some platiniferous substance was accidently introduced.

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"In these circumstances it would appear desirable to make a further search for platinum in this rock, and it is suggested that a further quantity of about 10 lb. of this material should be forwarded to the Imperial Institute for examination."

35. The quantities of gold present in the samples are undoubtedly very small. On the other hand, it is definitely stated that gold was present in them, and it is well known that even in areas in which it has been found in reefs or veins, only some of the latter contain the material and that, therefore, even though the assays of the samples collected should fail to disclose the presence of gold, the result cannot be regarded as conclusive until a more complete examination of the reefs and veins has been made and a more exhaustive collection of samples has been assayed. With the object of the collection of further information the Government Geologist was instructed to undertake a further tour in the area at the end of the year.

36. Additional samples of quartz veins, some with pyritic strings were obtained from Haduya, the reputed platinum-bearing rock was found in situ at Haduya, and samples of it both from the margins of quartz veins and from the main mass were collected. These were sent to the Imperial Institute for assay. Moreover, it was discovered that from the vicinity of Tug Had eastwards to Goro, the foothills consist entirely of true sedimentary slates similar in strike, dip, and jointing to those already described from Haduya in the report for 1928, but differing somewhat in composition. Whereas the Haduya slates are more or less metamorphosed, greyish, purplish, and nearly black phyllitic rocks containing in places black-spotted probably chiastolite varieties, the slates eastwards of Tug Had, for a distance of about 25 miles, are much less noticeably metamorphosed, are interbedded with purplish-black grits, with green grits and grauwackes, and contain here and there parallel bands of black crystalline limestone several feet in thickness. The grits and grauwackes are especially noticeable at Kalhan, and the black limestone bands at El Dibbir. Further, the slates east of Tug Had not only contain very few quartz reefs and veins and these only of the white "buck" quartz type, but are comparatively free from intrusives, the only types of the latter noted being fine-grained granite and felsitic porphyry.

37. At Haduya, within the slate series, with the same strike, with a pronounced slaty structure and the same vertical dip of the planes of fissility (or foliation), is a very fine-grained pale-green rock which appears to be the one in which platinum is thought to occur. It is impossible to tell from the hand specimens what the rock is. Along quartz veins it occurs as a pale or dark-green chloritic schist, and in the massive state it exhibits parallel cracks resembling the asbestos-filled cracks in serpentine, though no asbestos could be found in the

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rock. While in many ways resembling a fine-grained carbonated serpentine, the rock can scarcely be determined without microscopical examination.

38. *Coal.*—Two samples of coal from El Ham-Ham near Erigavo were obtained from outcrops; they were similar to the surface samples of the seam described in 1924 from Hedhed Tug south of Ankor. It is reported that one seam is about 20 feet long and 5 feet thick, and others occur in the vicinity. All are in the face of the escarpment below the topmost thick stratum of Eocene limestone.

39. *Water Supply.*—Following on the receipt from the Secretary of State for the Colonies of particulars regarding the provisions of the Colonial Development Act, a conference was convened at Sheikh for the purpose, amongst others, of deciding upon the lines along which improvements in the water supply of the Protectorate are most urgently needed, the means by which these improvements can be best effected, and the places at which efforts at improvement should first be made. Suggestions and recommendations were made as to the methods to be adopted both for improvement of the water supply and for reconditioning and maintaining the roads. Provisional estimates of the cost of these improvements were framed. Arrangements were subsequently made, following consideration by the Colonial Development Committee of the material supplied, for a well known firm of Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme for water boring operations estimated to cost £15,000 for a period of two years.

40. *Petroleum.*—The members of the staff of the Somaliland Petroleum Company, after a period spent in Europe, returned to the Protectorate for further examination of the Dagah Shabell area and the Nogal.

41. *Mica.*—A request was received from India for the conditions governing the grant of a concession for prospecting and working this mineral at Durriehauseh, Humbeleh, etc. Further action on the part of the inquirer is awaited.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Sea Customs.

42. The value of the Protectorate sea-borne trade during the year 1929 was Rs. 94,60,480 contrasted with Rs. 1,57,77,713 in 1928. The following comparative table shows the value of the imports and exports, excluding specie, during the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.* Rs.	*Exports.* Rs.	*Total.* Rs.
1925	53,65,455	36,40,830	90,06,285
1926	44,59,650	36,88,710	81,48,360
1927	57,21,663	48,89,120	1,06,10,783
1928	82,51,443	75,26,270	1,57,77,713
1929	62,75,587	31,84,893	94,60,480

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Imports.

43. The import trade in 1929, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 35,000, was distributed in the following proportions between the four Protectorate ports :—

Ports.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1929.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
Berbera ...	45,03,765	71·8	62·1	61·6	58·8	57·5
Bulhar ...	3,01,301	4·8	3·6	3·3	5·3	6·9
Zeilah... ...	11,71,614	18·7	30·2	32·1	32·8	32·8
Makhir Coast...	2,98,907	4·7	4·1	3·0	3·1	2·8

The following were the articles which principally contributed to the total value :—

Article.	*Country of Origin.*	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
American Grey Sheeting.	America via Aden.	Yds.	38,410	9,750	1,800	166,440	301,530
China Grey Sheeting.	China via Aden.	„	—	—	6,300	32,300	—
Japan Grey Sheeting.	Japan via Aden.	„	1,546,265	2,161,230	3,151,960	2,466,010	2,857,110
European White Long Cloth.	Manchester via Aden.	„	1,071,248	1,036,510	1,990,723	1,399,902	927,226
Dates ...	Persian Gulf via Aden.	Cwt.	51,395	121,592	46,358	47,761	38,280
Rice ...	India via Aden	„	183,686	208,462	100,515	56,259	91,971
Sugar ...	Java and Mauritius via Aden.	„	43,823	69,612	49,302	31,762	33,966

Exports.

44. The export trade, excluding specie to the value of Rs. 90,507, amounted to Rs. 31,84,893 and was distributed in the following proportions amongst the Protectorate ports :—

Port.	*Amount in Rs.*	*Percentage.*				
		1929.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
Berbera ...	19,50,690	61·3	57·9	54·9	56·0	58·8
Bulhar... ...	2,20,803	6·9	4·5	6·9	9·4	8·2
Zeilah	8,15,684	25·6	34·3	31·9	28·3	29·0
Makhir Coast...	1,97,716	6·2	3·3	6·3	6·3	4·0

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The following were the main indigenous products shipped from the Protectorate :—

Article.	*Country of destination.*	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925.*
Bullocks...	Aden ...	Nos.	563	877	1,340	1,008	789
Sheep and Goats.	A few to Mukalla and Suez but majority to Aden.	„	60,079	74,543	120,123	126,280	97,492
Skins (sheep and goats).	Europe, America via Aden.	„	981,428	3,773,940	1,754,548	1,066,702	1,302,302
Hides ...	do.	Cwt.	2,832	2,404	130	181	653
Gums and resins.	Europe and India via Aden.	„	16,759	14,678	5,047	6,766	5,227
Ghee ...	Aden ...	„	1,059	1,168	4,938	3,693	2,761

Land Customs.

ZEILAH.

45. The statistics of the land customs station from 1925–1929 are—

IMPORTS.

Item.	*Unit.*	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1925*
Millet (Sorghum) ...	Cwt. ...	—	87½	661	955	1,417
Wheat	„ ...	—	8½	43	Statistics are not available.	

EXPORTS.

Horses	Nos. ...	6	15	—	—	—
Camels	„ ...	207	138	18	—	—
Donkeys	„ ...	2	2	—	—	—
Cattle...	„ ...	1,554	759	934	827	945
Sheep and Goats ...	„ ...	6,341	7,675	7,421	4,905	5,901
Salt	Cwt. ...	7,470¼	14,736¼	15,903	19,089	20,988

46. The condition of the salt industry is evident from the fluctuations which have occurred since 1923 :—

Quantity Exported.

Year.	*By land.* Cwt.	*By sea.* Cwt.	*Total.* Cwt.
1923	34,314	48,082	82,396
1924	26,061	2,854	28,915
1925	20,988	25,740	46,728
1926	19,089	22,444	41,533
1927	15,903	31,432	47,335
1928	14,736	18,822	33,558
1929	7,470	54,528	61,998

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Hargeisa and Buramo.

47. At Hargeisa duty amounting to Rs. 152 was collected on 750 akaras or bundles of Kat (Katha Edulis) imported from Abyssinia and at Buramo differential duty to the amount of Rs. 470 was paid on goods originally imported by sea. In 1928 the corresponding items were Rs. 159 (784 akaras) and Rs. 2,807.

Transit Trade.

48. Customs duty at the rate of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied on merchandise in transit between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. All merchandise to and from Abyssinia is now conveyed either by motor or camel transport to Jijiga *via* Berbera. The value of the goods thus imported and exported since 1923 was :—

In 1923	Rs. 2,49,693
,, 1924	Rs. 5,02,367
,, 1925	Rs. 7,40,455
,, 1926	Rs. 9,00,783
,, 1927	Rs. 14,63,849
,, 1928	Rs. 13,89,665
,, 1929	Rs. 10,78,879

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

49. The following is a comparative table of the steam and motor vessels and country craft shipping which entered and cleared from the Protectorate ports during the past five years :—

	1929.		*1928.*		*1927.*		*1926.*		*1925.*	
	Nos.	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*	*Nos.*	*Tons.*
Entered ...	909	85,498	740	87,065	666	51,682	504	39,920	560	38,420
Cleared ...	926	85,125	722	85,936	651	50,861	511	40,870	579	37,966

Roads.

50. There are no railways in the Protectorate. The approximate mileage of roads and cleared tracks in the Protectorate suitable for general traffic and mechanical transport of medium weight is 940 miles. Consideration is being given to the possibility of obtaining assistance from the Colonial Development Fund for a programme of road development, and estimates are being framed. In particular, it is hoped to proceed with the construction of a road from Zeilah to the Abyssinian frontier, with a view to the development of the transit trade.

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The arterial roads of the Protectorate are :—

(1) Berbera — Sheikh — Burao — Ainabo — Adad — El Afweina — Erigavo — Baran.

(2) Berbera—Hargeisa—Gabileh—Buramo.

(3) Zeilah—Loyi (French Frontier).

(4) Burao—Oadweina—Hargeisa.

(5) Zeilah—Arahalas.

51. The mileage of the various roads is as follows :—

	miles.
Berbera—Dubar (Water works)	7
Berbera—Upper Sheikh	50
Sheikh—Burao	38
Burao—Ainabo	81
Ainabo—Adad	52
Adad—El Afweina	47
El Afweina—Erigavo	56
Erigavo—Baran	108
Berbera—Hargeisa	110
Hargeisa—Gabileh	38
Gabileh—Buramo	42
*Berbera—Bulhar	43
*Bulhar—Zeilah	102
Zeilah—Loyi	18
Burao—Hargeisa	114
*Zeilah—Arahalas	30

52. Traffic has considerably increased during this year on the main arterial roads of the Protectorate.

It has been observed that the commercial firms are replacing low powered and small capacity vehicles, and that all the commercial motor transport is of foreign manufacture—not one vehicle of British make.

53. The number of licensed and non-licensed Government motor-cars in the Protectorate for 1929 was as follows :—

†Licensed	48
Government	11

54. The number of Government motor vehicles was as follows :—

Ford	6
Morris Commercial	4
Governor's Car	1

---

* Only passable for motor traffic during the winter months.

† 14 cars privately owned by Government officials.

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55. The total mileage of the motor transport was as under :—

	miles.
Morris Commercial	47,923
Ford	26,431
	74,354

56. The present comparative cost per ton-mile of transport by Morris truck, Ford truck, and camel, estimated on the assumption that a full load is always carried, is :—

	annas.
Morris truck	6.71
Ford truck	10.65
Camel	8.0

Posts and Telegraphs.

57. The headquarters of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are at Berbera.

The revenue and expenditure of the Department in respect of the last five years are as follows :—

	1929.	*1928.*	*1927.* (*nine months*)	*1926.*	*1925.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	1,833	2,360	1,174	1,452	1,137
Expenditure ...	8,519	8,281	6,191	7,447	7,421

58. Until the end of 1886 there was no recognised Post Office in British Somaliland, and the acceptance and distribution of ordinary letters were carried out by the British Agents at Berbera, Bulhar, and Zeilah. On 1st January, 1887, the Director-General of the Post Office in India sanctioned the establishment of Post Offices at Berbera and Zeilah. The Indian Post Office Act, 1898, was applied to British Somaliland by an Order of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated 9th March, 1903, and the Protectorate Post Office was transferred from the Indian Administration and constituted under the above authority on the 1st June, 1903, the Protectorate becoming a member of the International Postal Union.

59. The operations against the Dervishes in 1903 necessitated the establishment of a number of Field Post Offices, the mails being carried by runners and camel riders. This system was maintained till 1925 for the conveyance of mails between the administrative stations in the interior and, in the absence of railways and motor-cars, proved generally a cheap, reliable, and comparatively speedy service.

In 1925, a weekly motor-car mail service was inaugurated, connecting Berbera, Sheikh, Burao, and Hargeisa. Other places are still served by mail runners.

60. Direct mails, which are exchanged weekly with London, Aden, and Bombay, are carried by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamers, regular connections

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with which are made by local contract steamers between Aden and Berbera. Letters to and from the United Kingdom are delivered within from 12 to 14 days.

61. The issue and payment of British postal orders was introduced in January, 1905, and during the same year arrangements were made with the British and Indian Post Offices for a direct exchange of money orders. In 1907, the cash on delivery and insurance of parcels, and the value payable and insurance of parcels, etc., services were introduced with Great Britain and India including Aden, and in the following year the insured letter service to Great Britain was commenced. The insured box service with Great Britain and certain other countries was introduced in 1926. The direct exchange of money orders with the Kenya and Uganda Administration, which had been introduced in 1910, was suspended in 1921 on account of exchange difficulties. Money orders to and from the East African Dependencies are exchanged through the intermediary of the Aden Post Office.

Telegraphs.

62. The present telegraph administration is the result of evolution from and expansion and improvement of the military telegraphs used in connection with the operations of the Somaliland Field Force in 1903 and subsequently. The system has been improved and expanded with the addition of wireless telegraphy.

A land telegraph line now connects Berbera with Sheikh and Burao, which are also served by telephone.

Wireless stations ($1\frac{1}{2}$ kilowatt) are now in operation at Berbera, Burao, Erigavo, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Zeilah.

All stations are open to the public for inland and foreign telegraph traffic. The charges are :—

6 annas per word from any Protectorate station to Aden.
2 annas per word to any station within the Protectorate.
Rs. 1–14–0* per word to the United Kingdom.
Rs. 1–6–0* per word to India.

63. In April, 1927, a wireless receiving apparatus for the reception of the British Official News Service transmitted from Rugby was installed and has given satisfaction.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

64. There is no Judicial or Legal Department in the Protectorate. The Criminal Courts consist of the Protectorate Court, District Courts of the first class, and District Courts of the second class. The Governor and Secretary to the Government are the Judges of

* Half this rate is charged for deferred telegrams.

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the Protectorate Court. District Courts of the first class are held by Commissioners-in-charge of Districts and such other officers as the Governor may so empower. District Courts of the second class are held by those officers so empowered by the Governor. The District Courts are empowered by law to try all cases in which natives are parties except for sedition, treason or murder. Cases beyond the jurisdiction of the District Courts, or possessing features which make a trial by the Protectorate Court desirable, are committed by the District Court for trial by the Protectorate Court. In cases where appeals lie from judgments of District Courts, the appeal is to the Protectorate Court of Appeal, which is the final Appellate Court in the Protectorate.

65. The law of the Protectorate is :—

(*a*) Coded law, i.e., the Indian Penal Code as applied by the "Somaliland Administration of Criminal Justice Ordinance, 1926," and local Ordinances.

(*b*) Tribal custom based on Mohammedan law.

A much stricter legal control is now exercised. In past years, murder and homicide among the natives have been dealt with under tribal customs, but such crimes are now tried by the Criminal Courts. The infliction of the death penalty in particularly aggravated cases has not been without its effect upon native thought; and as the Somali realises that the death penalty may follow conviction for murder, he will doubtless, as time goes on, modify his characteristic light-hearted outlook on the sanctity of human life.

66. In addition to Criminal and Civil cases under (*a*) tribal cases are investigated and judged by District Courts under a mixture of tribal custom, Mohammedan law and Indian law. This work forms the great bulk of the District officers' work as the Somali's inherent love of litigation and refusal to accept any decision except from the highest court of appeal leads to much work of a trivial nature which, if neglected, may result in intertribal fighting. The Kadis deal with cases falling entirely under Mohammedan law and Courts of Akils or Elders have been set up to deal with the less important and contentious of tribal cases.

67. The criminal records for 1929 show an increase in the amount of crime. This may be attributed partly to the destitution in the community caused by the drought and partly to more extensive enforcement of the law.

68. The publication of a volume of the Revised Laws of the Protectorate is in course of preparation.

Police.

69. The Somaliland Civil Police are constituted under "The Somaliland Civil Police Ordinance, 1927."

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The Force is under the control of the Governor and has an establishment as under :—

One Commandant,
One Assistant Commandant,
One Pay and Quartermaster,
One Transport Officer,
555 Rank and file ;

who were distributed as follows :—

Berbera District	4 officers and 195 rank and file.
Burao District	54 rank and file.
Nogal	26 rank and file.
Erigavo District	101 rank and file.
Hargeisa District	77 rank and file.
Zeilah District (including Buramo) ...	102 rank and file.

70. Attestation is for six years with option of re-engagement on completion of this period for a further three years. Rank and file are non-pensionable but are eligible for gratuities on completion of 12 years' and 21 years' service.

Training is carried out at headquarters in Berbera, and a musketry course is fired there by all available men. Rank and file in stations other than Berbera are under charge of Commissioners-in-charge of Districts. Reliefs are effected as often as possible from Berbera in order that relieved men can receive training.

Garrison duties are carried out by the force at Berbera, Erigavo, Zeilah, and Buramo.

The police are liable to serve as a military force when called upon by the Governor to discharge military duties.

Prisons.

71. The established prisons in the Protectorate during 1929 were as follows :—

The Central Prison at Berbera,
Five District Prisons at Zeilah, Burao, Hargeisa, Buramo, and Erigavo.

The Central Prison accommodates all convicts sentenced to terms of imprisonment exceeding six months in addition to all prisoners convicted in the Berbera District.

The District Prisons accommodate prisoners convicted within Districts who are sentenced to imprisonment for six months or less.

The Central Prison is administered by the Director of Prisons, and each District Prison by the Commissioner-in-charge of the District.

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72. As Berbera Prison is the Central Prison for the whole Protectorate the accommodation and general routine there are more elaborate than in District Prisons. The prison occupies an area of some 6,700 square yards. The whole is surrounded by a wall from 11 to 17 feet high. Accommodation is provided for male, female, and juvenile convicts and for lunatics. In addition to the usual wards and cells, the prison is equipped with a dispensary, two sick wards capable of accommodating four lying-in cases, a workshop and the usual offices. The prison is lighted by electricity.

All prisoners on admission to the prison are medically examined. Their clothing is collected, disinfected, and stored, and after bathing they are issued with clean prison clothing. A blanket is provided for use at nights.

Water is laid on in the prison and an unlimited supply is available for drinking, washing, and sanitary purposes.

Latrines are of the open type and are kept clean by flushing with water after use. Separate latrines are provided for males and females.

Prisoners wash their own clothing and are issued with soap for this purpose.

73. Committals to the Central Prison during 1929 as compared with the two preceding years were as follows :—

Year.	*For want of bail or for debt.*	*For penal imprisonment.*	*Lunatics.*
1929 ...	7	282	9
1928 ...	10	241	15
1927 ...	17	177	10

The increase in committals for penal imprisonment during the year is general throughout the prisons in the country.

This is attributable to the increase of offences against property by persons who have lost their stock through the drought of 1927.

74. The bulk of the labour provided by the prisons is unskilled, and is used on work of public utility, such as road making, quarrying stones, watering trees in Government grounds, etc.

A certain amount of skilled labour is carried out in the Central Prison where long-sentence prisoners are taught to manufacture and repair articles of use to other Departments. The manufacture of cane furniture is the main industry.

The trade classes for carpenters and masons instituted last year have proved most successful, and useful work is now being performed by prisoners under the supervision of the Public Works Department.

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VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

75. A general building programme was carried out at Berbera and the principal stations in the Protectorate. The renewal of the main water supply for Berbera was carried out for a distance of six miles, the remaining two miles being under construction.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

76. The medical staff of the Protectorate consists of the Principal Medical Officer, five medical officers, two wardmasters, one laboratory assistant, three assistant surgeons, five sub-assistant surgeons and subordinate staff. Well equipped hospitals are established at Berbera, Burao, and Hargeisa, and smaller ones at Zeilah, Erigavo, Buramo, and Sheikh. The relief camp for destitutes at Bulhar has a small hospital. A lunatic asylum at Berbera was sanctioned and the building nearly completed by the end of the year. The Leper Asylum is full and will require extension. 42,773 out-patients and 3,502 in-patients were treated during the year 1929. Smallpox was brought into the country in June and is still present. The outbreak was of a severe type—out of a total of 106 cases there were 50 deaths during 1929.

A severe epidemic of malaria affected all the valleys and low ground and during the year there were 1,544 cases reported, of which 1,131 were of the malignant type.

IX.—EDUCATION.

77. The Somalis in general are strenuously opposed to their children receiving any education other than that given by their own Mohammedan priests, which consists chiefly of the recitation of passages from the Koran. There is a small Government elementary school in Berbera attended by Somali, Arab, and Indian children. The average number of pupils during the year was 73. Good reports have been received regarding the six Somali boys referred to in the previous report who were sent to the Gordon College at Khartoum.

Arrangements have now been made for a further development of education on modest lines, based on the methods adopted in the Sudan. This is to take the form of Government assistance towards the payment of teachers in the Koranic schools already in existence, and the purchase of equipment, on the sole condition that the boys shall be taught to read and write in Arabic and to understand simple arithmetic. It is proposed to consider a further extension of this system at the end of a year's time.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

78. All land in the Protectorate except in proclaimed townships may be said to be vested in the Somali tribe. Outside the townships no individual title to land is recognised (except in the case of a few

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small religious settlements) nor is any sectional title to any particular area recognised as giving any particular section of the tribe an exclusive right to that area. It is the habit of certain sections always to graze in the same area and this in practice gives them a prescriptive title to that area, but theoretically and legally individuals of other sections have the right to enter such areas and use the grazing as necessity dictates. In the western part of the Protectorate, where large areas of ground are under cultivation, the tribal title has been restricted to the extent that the right of individual cultivators to the enjoyment of the area cultivated is recognised, but only so long as effective cultivation is continued.

Government has taken powers to expropriate land for public purposes, on payment of compensation for damage done thereby to an individual or section. Land so expropriated becomes Crown Land.

The township areas are divided into two classes :—

(*a*) Old established towns on the coast, such as Berbera and Zeilah : and

(*b*) Recently established towns in the interior.

In class (*a*) freehold right to the land could presumably be established by the present owners. Actually, there are no valid deeds of ownership, and the provision of such deeds would entail such heavy work of investigation that the matter has been allowed to remain undefined. In practice, disputes as to ownership seldom arise.

In class (*b*), Government has introduced legislation to give to individuals a valid title to ground. All townships are of such recent growth that, except in five small plots in Hargeisa, no claim to freehold has been established, and leases or temporary occupation licences have been given to such of the present occupiers as wish to secure a legal title to their land.

XI.—LABOUR.

79. The Somali has proved himself to be an intelligent and willing worker if properly led. Government has usually been able to obtain labour at a reasonable cost, but hitherto there has been little or no chance of testing the Somali under private employ.

80. The terms of contract between private employers and local labour are governed by a Master and Servant Ordinance, and an Employer's Liability Ordinance.

The export of unskilled labour from the Protectorate is governed by law and is subject to stringent conditions.

G. J. WELSH,

Assistant Secretary to the Government.

THE SECRETARIAT,

BRITISH SOMALILAND.

26*th April*, 1930.

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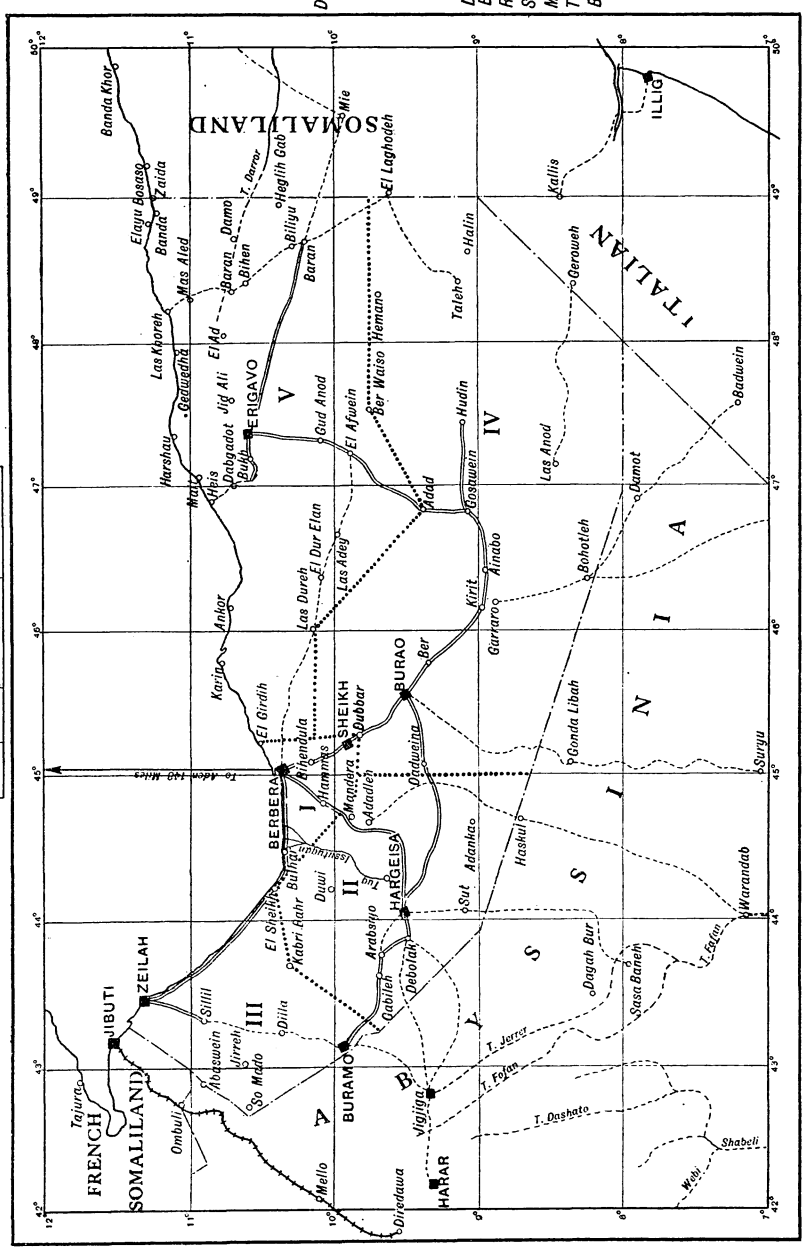

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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Sketch Maps of Zanzibar and Pemba.

History and Geography.

The Island of Zanzibar is situated in 6° S. latitude and is separated from the mainland by a channel 22½ miles across at its narrowest part. It is 53 miles long by 24 broad (maximum measurements), and has an area of 640 square miles.

To the north-east, at a distance of 25 miles, lies the Island of Pemba, in 5° S. latitude. It is smaller than Zanzibar, being 42 miles long by about 14 broad (maximum measurements), and has an area of 380 square miles.

In the year 1890 the supremacy of British interests in the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba was recognized by France and Germany, and the Islands were declared a British Protectorate in accordance with conventions by which Great Britain waived all claims to Madagascar in favour of France and ceded Heligoland to Germany.

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In 1891 a regular Government was constituted with a British Representative as First Minister. In 1906 the Imperial Government assumed more direct control over the Protectorate and reorganized the Government. In 1911 Seyyid Ali abdicated the throne and was succeeded by the present ruler, Seyyid Khalifa bin Harub, K.C.M.G., K.B.E. On the 1st July, 1913, the control of the Protectorate was transferred from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office, legal effect being given to the change of administration in the following year when the Protectorate Council and the Offices of High Commissioner, British Resident, and Chief Secretary were established. In 1925 the Office of High Commissioner was abolished. In 1926, Executive and Legislative Councils were constituted.

Languages.

The principal languages employed are English, Arabic, Swahili, Gujarati, and Kutchi.

Currency.

The silver rupee of British India of the standard weight and fineness enacted in the Indian Coinage Act, 1906, is the standard coin of the Protectorate. The exchange value of the rupee was in 1927 fixed by the Government of India at Shs. 1*s.* 6*d.* gold. All other silver coins of British India, of the standard weight and fineness enacted in the same Act, are legal tender for the payment of an amount not exceeding Rs.5. Local copper pice are legal tender, at the rate of 64 pice to one rupee, for the payment of an amount not exceeding one rupee. There is a Government note issue of the denominations Re.1, Rs.5, 10, 20, 50, 100, and 500.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures used are those obtaining in Great Britain, together with the following native ones :—

Weights.	*lb.*
Frasila : For produce generally	35
Gisla :	
For grain	360
For native salt	600
For groundnuts in husks	180
For groundnuts without husks	285
Tola : For gold and silver : equal to the weight of one rupee. 40 tolas = 1 lb.	

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Measures.

Pishi or Keila : Equal to 6½ lb. avoirdupois weight of fresh water or 6 lb. of rice.

Kibaba : Equal to 26 oz. avoirdupois weight of fresh water or 1½ lb. of rice : subdivided into ½ kibaba and ¼ kibaba.

I.—GENERAL.

The Report of the Commission on Closer Union of the Dependencies in Eastern and Central Africa was published in January, 1929.

The Agricultural Produce Export Decree was promulgated in July, 1929. In accordance with the Rules made under this Decree, cloves intended for export shall not contain more than 5 *percentum* of extraneous matter, nor more than 16 *percentum* of moisture. This legislation proved unexpectedly easy in operation and the results have been eminently satisfactory.

The construction of the new Port at Malindi was completed and opened by His Highness the Sultan in October. The main wharf, which is 800 feet long, has a deck area of 42,000 square feet suitable at all states of the tide for mooring lighters and berthing vessels of a draught not exceeding 20 feet. The wharf equipment consists of one 5-ton and four 30-cwt. electric cranes, of import and export sheds each with a floor area of 31,500 square feet and of an open stacking ground with an area of 57,000 square feet. Further facilities of the Port comprise a passenger landing place, an inner basin for native craft, and a quay with cranes and transit shed for handling cargo from dhows. There are also a large area for stacking coal, produce depôt and commodious warehouses for storage of goods in bond and for lease to merchants. The Port of Zanzibar is thus equipped to handle the foreign trade of the Protectorate and coastal traffic with the maximum of efficiency and economy.

Increased facilities were inaugurated during the year for supplying water to shipping which enable water-boats to be filled at the rate of 3½ tons a minute instead of 1 ton as heretofore. The excellence of Zanzibar water is well known on the Coast and the augmented service has proved very popular.

Satisfactory progress was made in furtherance of the policy of road construction. (Particulars are given under "Communications.")

Sir Claud Hollis, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., British Resident, was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Trinidad and Tobago in November and left for England in December. From the date of his departure to the end of the year Mr. R. H. Crofton, Chief Secretary to the Government, acted as British Resident.

In December Mr. R. S. D. Rankine, C.M.G., Chief Secretary to the Government of Uganda, was appointed British Resident in Zanzibar.

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II.—FINANCE.

(i) Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Protectorate for the last five years :—

	Revenue. £000*s.*	*Expenditure.* £000*s.*
1925	578	543
1926	449	650
1927	540	606
1928	471	598
1929	514	562

(ii) Taxation.

No new taxation was imposed during the year.

(iii) Assets and Liabilities.

	Thousands. £
Balance of assets on 31st December, 1928 ...	324
Deficit, 1929	48
Balance of assets on 31st December, 1929 ...	276
Loan to Kenya Colony and Protectorate ...	200

(iv) Public Debt.

The public debt amounts to £100,000 in 3 per cent. debentures, which were issued to the British public in 1899 under authority of the Loan Decree, 1899, and which are repayable in 1931. The extinction of the debt is fully covered by a Sinking Fund which was provided for by annual contributions from general revenue. These contributions were discontinued by virtue of a Decree enacted in August, 1927, and the amount at the credit of the fund on the 31st December, 1929, was £108,000, which is invested mainly in Colonial Government Securities.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Cloves.—The seasonal crop 1929–30 is an exceptionally large one, the estimate for the season's harvest being approximately 10 lakhs of frasilas.

The figures for the quantity and value of cloves exported for the last five years are as follows :—

	Tons. 1,000*s.*	*Value.* £000*s.*
1925	10·9	885
1926	7·9	572
1927	12·9	820
1928	7·9	651
1929	8·7	868

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The year was marked by a sharp rise in prices, the range being from Rs.14.94 to Rs.33.91 per frasila (duty-paid).

The bonus paid on young trees amounted to Rs.1,79,794 as compared with Rs.1,20,000 in 1928. This bonus was compounded in 1928 and the final outstanding commitments were paid in full during 1929.

Copra.—The export of domestic copra rose to 11,600 tons.

The figures for quantity and value of domestic exports for the last five years are as follows :—

	Tons. 1,000*s.*	*Value.* £000*s.*
1925	12·5	276
1926	12·8	281
1927	10·1	242
1928	9·4	235
1929	11·6	261

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Imports and Exports.

During 1929, the foreign trade of the Protectorate amounted to 118,000 tons, valued at lakhs Rs. 452, being an increase of 4 per cent. in weight, and an increase of 5 per cent. in value, as compared with the previous year.

The total imports (including goods directly trans-shipped, bullion and specie, and goods imported on Government account) amounted in value to lakhs Rs.222, and weighed 73,000 tons, this being an increase of 5 per cent. in value and an increase of 7 per cent. in weight as compared with 1928.

The total exports (including trans-shipment goods, bullion and specie, and re-exports) amounted to 45,000 tons weight, valued at lakhs Rs.230, being the same in weight and an increase of 5 per cent. in value as compared with 1928.

Balance of Trade.

The appended figures show the balance of trade in merchandise for the year under review :—

	Rs. (*Lakhs*).
Export of Domestic Merchandise	170
Re-exports of Foreign Merchandise	60
Re-exports of Foreign Merchandise by Parcel Post	2
Total Trade Exports	232

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	Rs. (Lakhs).
Total Imports of Merchandise	209
Total Imports of Merchandise by Parcel Post ...	4
	213
Less Government Imports	9
Total Trade Imports	204
Favourable Balance of Trade in Merchandise ...	28

The following table shows the balance of trade as represented by the excess in the value of exports over that of imports during the quinquennial period 1925–1929 :—

Year.	*Exports.*	*Imports.*	*Excess of Exports over Imports.*	*Percentage.*
	Rs. 000s.	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	
1925	2,86,86	2,68,45	+ 18,41	+ 6·86
1926	2,36,99	2,44,05	— 7,06	— 3·08
1927	2,43,21	2,35,92	+ 7,29	+ 3·09
1928	2,18,58	2,06,24	+ 12,34	+ 5·98
1929	2,29,47	2,09,25	+ 20,22	+ 9·66

Figures are exclusive of bullion and specie.

The distribution of trade among the countries principally interested is indicated in the following table :—

Countries.	*Imports therefrom.*	*Exports thereto.*	*Total.*	*Percentage of Total Trade.*	
	Rs. 000s.	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
India and Burma ...	82,82	46,16	1,28,98	23·40	28·57
United Kingdom	41,25	15,36	56,61	12·23	12·54
Tanganyika Territory ...	20,37	35,43	55,80	15·82	12·35
France	1,48	12,66	14,14	4·21	3·13
United States of America	4,73	14,82	19,55	6·30	4·33
Kenya Colony	5,55	4,38	9,93	2·32	2·19
Italy	1,09	39,51	40,60	8·29	8·99
Straits Settlements ...	99	8,32	9,31	2·49	2·07
Dutch East Indies ...	15,32	20,18	35,50	7·82	7·86
Japan	10,97	98	11,95	2·53	2·64

The value of cloves exported in 1928 and 1929 was as follows :—

	United Kingdom.	*British India.*	*Straits Settlements.*	*Germany.*	*United States.*	*Dutch East Indies.*	*All other countries.*	*Total.*
	Rs. 000s.	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*	*Rs. 000s.*
1928 ...	5,38	37,30	5,97	44	14,48	17,17	6,05	86,79
1929 ...	10,92	43,39	8,07	1,08	14,62	20,10	17,54	1,15,72

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The value of domestic and foreign copra exported for the same years was :—

	France.	*Italy.*	*All other Countries.*	*Total.*
	Rs. 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000*s.*
1928	16,31	33,33	1	49,65
1929	9,36	37,70	31	47,37

The value of piece-goods imported for the same years was :—

	United Kingdom.	*Holland.*	*British India.*	*Japan.*	*All other Countries.*	*Total.*
	Rs. 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000.*s*	*Rs.* 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000*s.*	*Rs.* 000*s.*
1928	14,99	5,38	8,57	6,27	2,53	37,74
1929	16,13	2,86	9,50	4,53	1,79	34,81

There is still keen competition between British India and Japan for the supply of grey cotton goods.

Trade Prospects.

While the present season's large harvest will undoubtedly influence trade during the early months of 1930, it is not likely that imports will be greatly affected as most of the trade requirements for the near future have already been anticipated.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(i) Shipping.

The total number of ocean-going vessels which called at Zanzibar during the year 1929 was 349, representing a net registered tonnage of 1,429,000, an increase of 3 ships and of 41,000 net registered tons over the previous year.

The number of coasting vessels entered and cleared during the year was 338 with a net registered tonnage of 131,000, compared with 314 vessels with a net registered tonnage of 120,000 in the year 1928.

During the year, 3,789 dhows entered the port, having an aggregate tonnage of 76,000, compared with 3,914 of 75,000 tons in 1928.

The Union-Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited, and the British India Steam Navigation Company, Limited, each maintain a monthly service to and from London, the former alternately via Suez and via the Cape.

Steamers of the Clan-Ellerman-Harrison and Ellerman-Bucknall lines call at Zanzibar monthly (irregular service).

A fortnightly service between Marseilles and Madagascar is provided by the Messageries Maritimes.

A monthly service of passenger and cargo steamers between Zanzibar and Genoa is maintained by the Compagnia Italiana Transatlantica.

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The United Netherlands Navigation Company provides a good service of cargo and passenger steamers on their Holland-East Africa Line.

The British India Steam Navigation Company's m.v. " Dumra " maintains a coasting service between Lamu and Ibo.

The Zanzibar Government steamers make regular weekly voyages to Pemba and Dar-es-Salaam.

Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw & Bros. maintain a regular coasting service from Zanzibar to Kismayu.

A regular service of passenger and cargo steamers from Hamburg via the Cape and via Suez is maintained by the Deutsche Ost-Afrika-Linie.

A monthly passenger and cargo service from Massaua via Aden, the Italian Benadir ports and Kenya to Zanzibar and back is provided by the Compagnia Italiana Transatlantica.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha maintain a monthly service between Zanzibar and Japan.

The British India Steam Navigation Company maintain a fortnightly service between Bombay and Durban via Zanzibar.

(ii) Roads.

ZANZIBAR.

The construction of the main road to Makunduchi in the south of the Island proceeded to a point 4 miles distant from Makunduchi—(37 miles from Zanzibar Town).

The branch road (3 miles) from Kufile to Kizimkazi on the west coast of this Island and 37¾ miles from Zanzibar was completed in September. The total distance from Zanzibar to Makunduchi is 41 miles which will be completed in June, 1930.

Half-mile of 20 ft. wide road branching from the Hollis Road (in the town) was constructed, thus linking up the Chwaka and Tunguu Road by a direct route with the new port.

PEMBA.

The central trunk road linking Chake-Chake and Mwembeduka, was metalled and waterproofed over the whole of its length, viz., 12.7 miles.

The Weti-Matangatwani-Konde-Msuka Road, the total length of which is 13 miles, is now metalled for a distance of 6 miles and waterproofed for a distance of 3 miles.

A metalled and waterproofed by-pass road to avoid the narrow main street in Weti Town was constructed to the pier for a length of 20 chains.

Progress was made with the metalling of the main road connecting Weti and Chake, a little more than a mile being finished and waterproofed.

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The earth and metalled roads were maintained in good order throughout the Island.

(iii) Port Facilities.

The new wharf (see also under "General") which forms a most important link between internal and overseas communications was completed and opened for use in October, 1929.

(iv) Postal.

During the year 1929, 559 vessels arrived and 587 sailed with mails, compared with 518 and 543 respectively for the previous year.

A comparative statement of articles dealt with in 1928 and 1929 is given below, and shows an increase of 38,172 for the year under review :—

	1928.	1929.
Letter mail :		
Foreign	1,221,408	1,231,740
Inland	258,456	283,514
Transit	36,616	39,641
Parcel mail :		
Foreign	11,971	11,728
Total	1,528,451	1,566,623

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

Justice, in cases in which persons subject to the Zanzibar Order in Council, 1924, are concerned, is administered by His Britannic Majesty's High Court and the Courts subordinate to it, and in other cases by His Highness the Sultan's Court for Zanzibar and the Courts subordinate to that Court. Subordinate Courts are held by Resident Magistrates, Administrative Officers, and Arab Kathis. In addition, District Courts, composed of benches of local headmen, exercise a limited criminal jurisdiction. An appeal lies from the British Court and from the Zanzibar Court in the exercise of their original civil and criminal jurisdiction to His Majesty's Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa and thence to the Privy Council.

During the year 1928 there was a marked decrease in the volume of civil work in the High Court. This diminution was due to the fact that during the years 1927 and 1928 steps were taken by mortgagees to realize most of the monies charged upon local property.

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The resultant litigation terminated in the latter part of 1928. Scarcity of money locally also reacted upon legal business of the High Court. There was also a reduction in the number of cases dealt with in the Subordinate Civil Courts. Upon the Subordinate Courts criminal side there was a slight increase in the number of cases heard.

During the year one accused was sentenced to death upon a charge of murder by the Court of Criminal Sessions. The sentence was carried out. No cases of robbery or dacoity were brought before the Courts.

Insolvency business transacted during the year was of normal volume. There was a decrease in the work of the Registry of Patents Designs and Trade Marks.

Police and Prisons.

Police.—The Police Force consists of 6 Officers, 1 British Non-Commissioned Officer, 1 British Bandmaster, 1 Paymaster, 1 Quartermaster, 18 Inspectors, 2 clerks, 537 rank and file, 22 detectives, 2 gunners, 36 band, 21 followers, and 7 literate constables. The general health of the Force was good both in the town of Zanzibar and in the outstations; there were 5 deaths and 11 invalidings during the year. The African Police Medal for Meritorious Service was conferred on 2 Non-Commissioned Officers. A new rank of literate constables was created which it is hoped will serve as a recruiting ground for Inspectors in the future.

The only disturbance of any importance which occurred during the year, was created by discontented tenants from the native quarter and was quelled by the Police without loss of life or serious injury.

The crime figures for the year are extremely satisfactory. There were no cases of murder, culpable homicide, or dacoity, while cases of causing grievous hurt showed a fall of 57 per cent. on 1928. Cases of housebreaking and theft showed a reduction of 42 per cent., and the value of property stolen fell from Rs.57,650 in 1928 to Rs.31,113 in 1929. There were 40 cases under the Dangerous Drugs Decree, in 32 of which convictions were obtained.

Sixteen fires occurred in Zanzibar Town during the year, 13 being in the native quarter. One native lost his life.

Prisons.—The health of the prisoners was generally good.

One capital sentence was executed.

Prison industries included tailoring, carpentry, cloth weaving, rope and mat-making, and tinning. One gang was employed daily in stone quarrying.

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VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Expenditure on Public Works Extraordinary amounted to £102,645, made up as follows :—

	£
Buildings	10,389
Harbour Works	40,409
Road Construction, Zanzibar	13,764
Road Construction, Pemba...	21,710
Acquisition of Property for Public Purposes ...	1,513
Minor Works	2,756
Water Supply and Drainage	2,237
Water Supply to Shipping	6,621
Creek Improvement	2,246
Port Facilities, Pemba	833
Clearance of Sites	167
Total	£102,645

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the population throughout the year was satisfactory and no epidemics occurred.

Insect-borne Diseases.—Malaria and filariasis are very common amongst the native population.

Anti-malarial work consisting of swamp drainage, the grading, maintenance, and cleansing of water channels, methodical routine searching for larvae and their breeding places, and the oiling of cesspools and other immovable collections of water was carried out in the town of Zanzibar and in the District townships.

Larvivorous fish are bred at the Health Office in Zanzibar and distributed free of charge for placing in mosque tanks and other public collections of water. Prosecutions are instituted in cases where the orders of the Health Authorities are not complied with.

Helminthic Diseases.—These are very common in the native population. Practically a hundred per cent. suffer from ankylostomiasis to a greater or less degree, while bilharziasis and ascariasis vary in intensity according to the district. Taeniasis, on the other hand, is rare.

Ankylostomiasis is treated extensively with carbon tetrachloride ; and propaganda measures are taken in the form of pamphlets, popular lectures, and the erection of model latrines in the principal villages and district dispensaries.

General Diseases.—These are chiefly respiratory and venereal. Bronchitis and pneumonia are common, the latter being responsible for many deaths, while pulmonary tuberculosis is a frequent cause

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of ill-health and death of both natives and Asiatics in the town of Zanzibar. Gonorrhoea is both more frequent and a more serious factor in general health than syphilis.

Yaws is a common disease and treatment with bismuth potassium sodium tartrate has been found both efficacious and popular.

Maternity and Child Welfare.—A Maternity Home in charge of a qualified European Midwife is situated on the outskirts of the Native Town. Attached to the Home is an out-patient clinic for women and children, conducted by the Midwife.

Legislation.—Comprehensive Township and Public Health Bills were enacted during the year.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Government Schools.

Post-Primary.—To the Teachers' Training School are admitted pupils whose education has reached the standard of the third and fourth years of studying English, provided they pass satisfactory tests conducted by the English Master-in-Charge. Started in 1923, it has now produced 26 trained teachers, ten of whom passed out in January, 1929. At the end of the year 35 pupils were in training. In the absence of other suitable post-primary schools, a few pupils are now taking part of this course with a view to service in the District Administration ; one went to the Medical Department for further training as a visiting Dispenser ; and two have proceeded to Makere College, Uganda, to study Medicine.

At the Commercial School the number on roll at the end of the year was 20, all except 2 being Indians. Early in 1929, 16 pupils sat for the final examination and nine were awarded Certificates or Diplomas.

Elementary and Primary.—The elementary stage consists of an infants' class and three subsequent standards followed in the case of the town school, called the Government Central School, by four English (or middle) standards. The roll of this combined elementary and middle school was 380, while at the fourteen district elementary schools there were 793 pupils.

At the Arab Girls' School there are now 91 pupils. Classes in cookery were successfully inaugurated.

Adult evening classes on a graded system are conducted at the town school.

As compared with 1928 there has been a decrease of 9 in the total roll of pupils.

Of the Arab and African population of school age 5·4 per cent. were in attendance at Government Schools.

Vocational Training.—In the four trades namely, carpentry, metal work, tailoring, and boot-making taught in town there were

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47 indentured apprentices; at Chake-Chake in Pemba there were fourteen.

Inter-departmental co-operation has made possible considerable advance in practical agriculture and in practical health work in the villages. All schools were medically inspected.

Indian Schools.

There are 12 schools in town, and three small schools in Pemba. The total number attending these schools was 1,904, while at Government and Mission schools there were 151 pupils, making a grand total of 2,055, of whom 769 were girls.

Five Indian schools were in receipt of grant-in-aid, and at these medical inspection was carried out.

Mission Schools.

Under the Missions there are four mixed schools, five schools for boys and one school for girls only, with a total of 149 boys and 145 girls. Of these 113 boys and 76 girls are Africans. Adult Mission classes show a total of 509, including 62 women.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The Topographical Survey proceeded slowly during the year, the whole staff being employed on Cadastral Survey from 1st April to 30th June, and for the last six months only one Surveyor was in the field.

XI.—LABOUR.

Down to the year 1897, when slavery was abolished, labour in Zanzibar was of two kinds, slave and free, the latter being that provided by the Wahadimu and Wapemba in accordance with agreements made with the Sultans.

Considerable labour difficulties followed the abolition of slavery, the freed slaves being disinclined to do more than was necessary for a bare subsistence, but to-day conditions in this respect are better though difficulty is still experienced in obtaining labour for agricultural purposes at an economical rate of pay. Ordinary unskilled labour is paid at the rate of 10 annas per diem in Zanzibar and 12 annas in Pemba, and clove harvesting labour (as a result of co-operation on the part of the members of the Clove Growers' Association) at the rate of 6 to 9 pice per "pishi" (see under "Weights and Measures").

Immigrant labour from the neighbouring mainland dependencies is encouraged, and is used very largely for the cleaning and weeding of the plantations and for public works, while the natives of the Protectorate provide most of the labour required for the harvesting of the clove crop.

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XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Meteorological.

The meteorological records taken during the year in Zanzibar (Town) and in Pemba (Banani) compared with the normals are as follows :—

	Zanzibar Town.		*Pemba (Banani).*	
	1892–1926.	1929.	1899–1926.	1929.
Temperature of the Air:—				
Mean of daily maxima ...	F. 84·5	84·6	F. 86·6	86·6
Mean of daily minima ...	76·5	77·3	76·0	77·1
Mean of daily range ...	8·0	7·3	10·6	9·5
Mean	80·5	80·9	81·3	81·8
Rainfall (inches)	59·43	54·24	81·72	76·10
Rainy days	100	114	162	187

Legislation.

Nineteen Decrees were enacted in 1929, of which 7 are new enactments, whilst the remaining 12 amend previous legislation.

The following are the most important :—

The Towns Decree, No. 2.—This Decree deals with the control of urban affairs. The higher standard of urban control, which had come into existence, had inevitably led to a demand for legislation of a far more comprehensive character than that which had sufficed the needs of simpler requirements. The Decree is divided into ten parts, each of which deals with a separate branch of the subject.

The Public Health Decree, No. 3.—For many years it had been apparent to officers of the Government, whose duties are connected with the subject, that the law relating to Public Health required amendment. This need was mainly due to a demand for more comprehensive legislation to support the increasing activity in matters of Public Health by the Medical Authorities.

The principal law on the subject was the Public Health Decree of 1909, Chapter X of the Revised Laws of Zanzibar, 1922—a law framed on simple lines, which had been subject to amendment ten times in the last 15 years. In face of the many proposed amendments submitted by the officers responsible, it appeared more expedient to introduce fresh legislation rather than to impose those amendments upon an already mutilated Decree.

The Decree is divided into ten parts, each of which deals with a separate division of the law.

The Recreation Park (Zanzibar) Decree, No. 7.—The playing of games in the Zanzibar Recreation Park had increased to such an extent that, in order to secure the full enjoyment of the facilities

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offered to the public, the need for some measure of control over the clubs and individuals utilizing the Park had become essential.

The Decree sets up a Sports Control Board, with legal powers to ensure that the amenities of the Recreation Park shall be enjoyed by the greatest possible number of persons in a manner consistent with the interest of sport and of the general public.

The Peace Preservation Decree, No. 8.—It had been found by experience that the Lethal Weapons Decree, 1925, was defective, and for this reason had been partially inoperative.

The Decree contains provisions designed for the preservation of the public peace when threatened by any serious disturbance. But until such threat occurs those provisions are in abeyance, and must be brought into operation by means of proclamation.

Power to make such proclamation to apply to any given area is given to the British Resident. Once such proclamation has been made, rules thereunder may be issued by the same authority; and Provincial Commissioners are invested with special powers of arrest and detention.

The Agricultural Produce Export Decree, No. 11.—The question of the best method of ensuring that all cloves should be inspected before export had been engaging the attention of the Government for some time past.

Hitherto this inspection had taken place on the entry of the cloves into Zanzibar. Legislation had recently been enacted whereby all cloves intended for export pass under the control of the Customs at the place of shipment. It being considered that this was the place at which inspection should take place, the Decree was enacted to effect the change and, at the same time, to introduce certain improvements in the old Decree which experience had shown to be necessary.

In addition to those described above, two formal Appropriation laws and eleven short amending Decrees were enacted.

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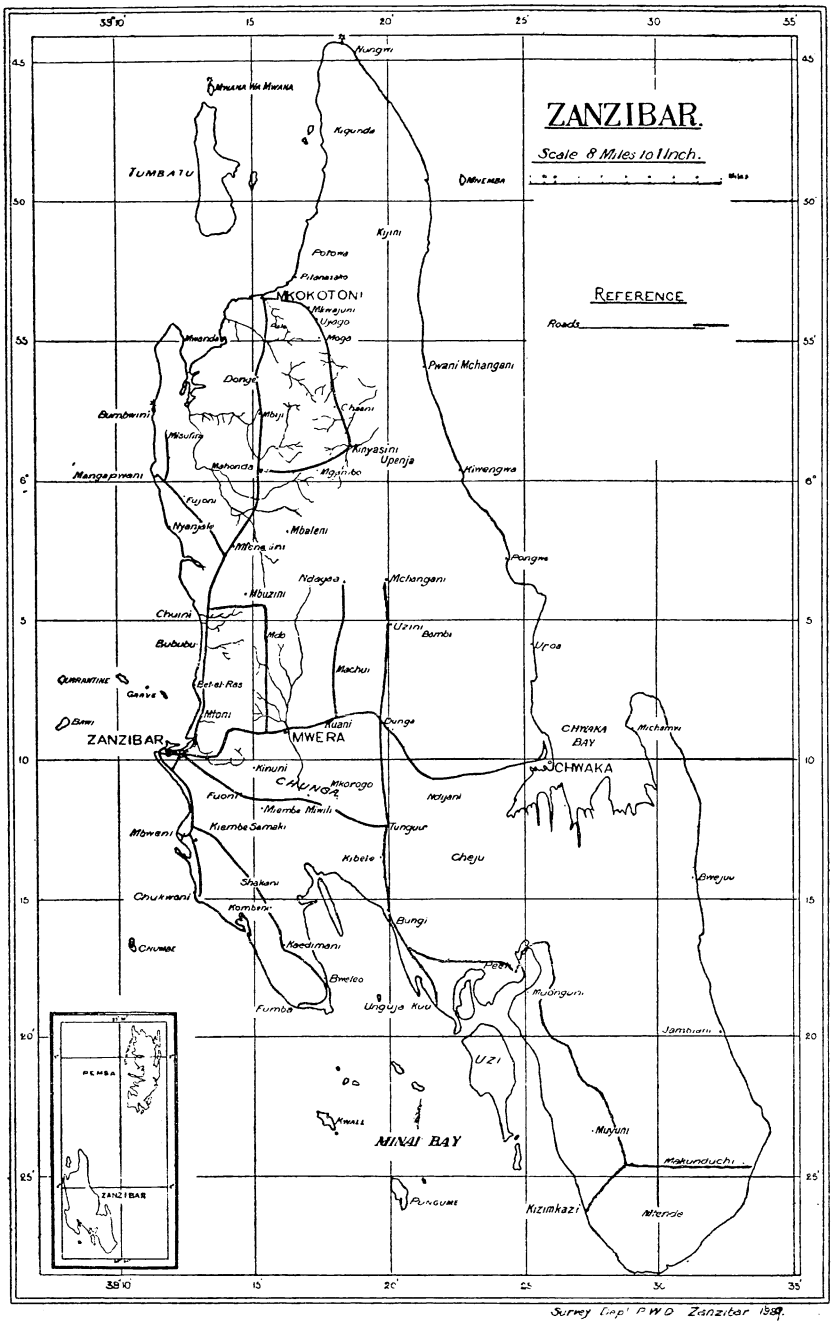

Survey Dep' P.W.D. Zanzibar 1929.

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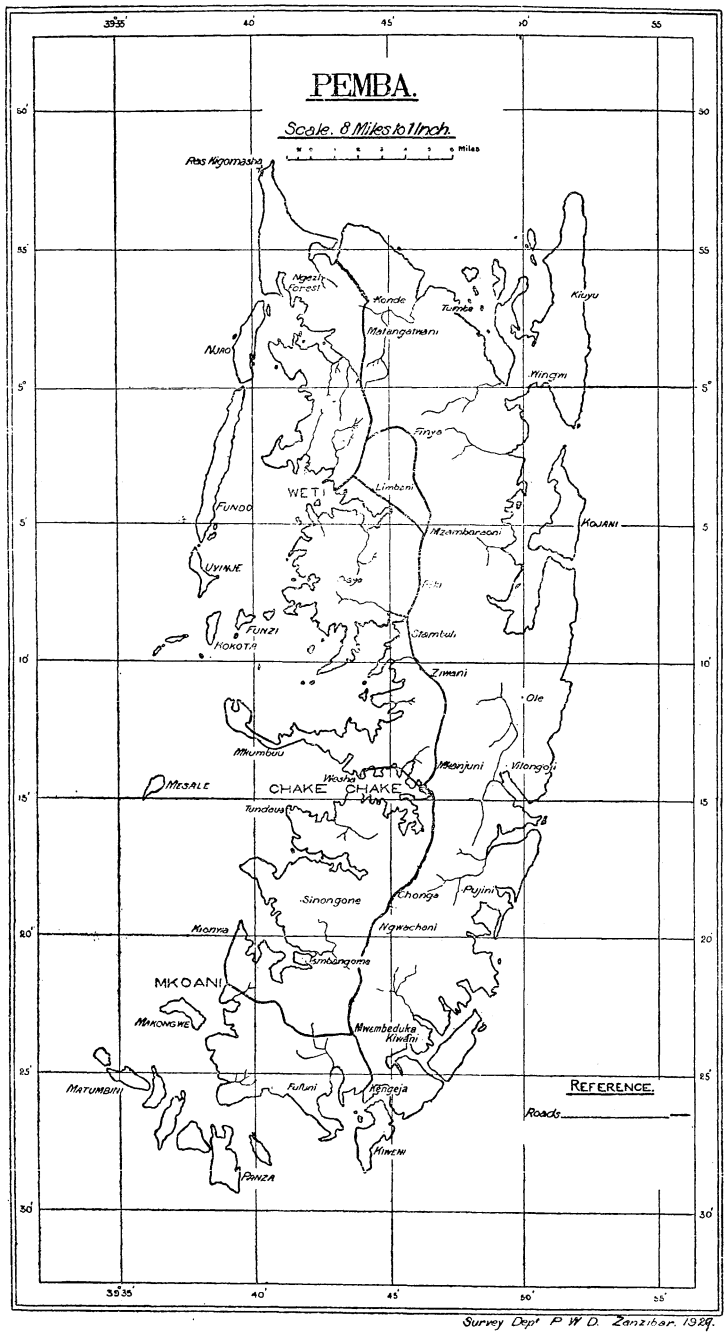

Survey Dep^t P.W.D. Zanzibar. 1929.

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

WEST INDIES AND BRITISH GUIANA.
Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922 [Cmd. 1679]. 3*s.* 0*d.* (3*s.* 2*d.*).

EAST AFRICA COMMISSION.
Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

REPORT OF THE SECOND IMPERIAL ENTOMOLOGICAL CONFERENCE. June, 1925. [Cmd. 2490.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

WEST AFRICA.
Report by the Hon. W. G. A. Ormsby Gore, M.P., on his visit during the year 1926. [Cmd. 2744.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1926.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2768.] 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2769.] 4*s.* 0*d.* (4*s.* 6*d.*).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING DEPENDENCIES.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 2825.] 2*s.* 0*d.* (2*s.* 1½*d.*).

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE. 1927.
Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2883.] 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).
Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 2884.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 9½*d.*).

COLONIAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.
Report of a Committee appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3049.] 9*d.* (10*d.*).

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA.
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CAYMAN ISLANDS

(Dependency of Jamaica)

REPORT FOR 1929.

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CAYMAN ISLANDS

(Dependency of Jamaica).

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1929.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical.

The Cayman Islands consist of three small islands in the Caribbean Sea lying north-west of Jamaica and approximately midway between that island and the south-west coast of Cuba. Sixty miles intervene between Grand Cayman and Little Cayman, and ten miles east of the latter is Cayman Brac. The group lies between 79.83° and 81.30° west longitude, and in the 19th and 20th parallels of North latitude. Grand Cayman, the largest of the islands, is 17 miles in length from east to west, four miles in width at the east end and seven at the west. No part of the island is more than fifty feet above the surrounding ocean. Cayman Brac is eleven miles long, by one and a quarter at its widest. Traversing its length from east to west is a central ridge of rock with precipitous sides, 150 feet high at the eastern end and sloping to the general level a few feet above the sea at the western end. Water-worn caverns are noticed along the entire length of this ridge, called the " Bluff," indicating that the low land about the base,

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much the smaller part of the islands area, has been more recently, in a geological sense, elevated above the sea. Little Cayman, the smallest of the group, is flat, and largely a sand ridge above the surrounding ocean. There are no outlying cays or reefs. The hundred fathoms ocean depth closely encircles the islands. A basin in the ocean floor, known as " Bartlett's Deep " and said to be one of the deepest areas in the Caribbean, lies parallel with and south of the islands from twenty-five to fifty miles off shore.

Historical.

The islands were discovered by Columbus on the 10th May, 1503, but were not occupied by the Spaniards. They were first called Las Tortugas, on account of the number of turtle in the surrounding waters. The present name is supposed to be derived from " caiman " —alligator—this reptile being at one time numerous in the smallest island. Settlement flowed from Jamaica in the first half of the 18th century ; but many of the present inhabitants bear the surnames of British seamen, wrecked either on the islands or on the neighbouring coast of Cuba, who have remained domiciled in the dependency.

Constitution.

In the early days of settlement public affairs were managed by the Justices of the Peace appointed by the Governor of Jamaica acting with and under the direction of a locally-elected " governor." To this body elected Vestrymen were subsequently added, and in 1833 a Custos was commissioned. In 1863 an Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament (26 and 27 Victoria chapter 31) recognizing the existence of acts and resolutions passed by the local body and validifying such as should be subsequently assented to by the Governor of Jamaica. Under this authority the Justices and Vestry therein mentioned revised the local enactments, and twenty acts passed at various times between the 2nd January, 1832, and the 1st July, 1864, were submitted to Governor Eyre of Jamaica and signed by him in assent on the 24th March, 1865. As provided in the Imperial Act, the Legislature of Jamaica may make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Dependency and may amend or repeal any of the laws locally passed. Under the provisions of Jamaica Law 24 of 1898, as amended by Law 33 of 1920, the Governor of Jamaica has power to appoint a Commissioner to administer the affairs of the Dependency.

The Commissioner performs the duties of Collector-General and Treasurer, and presides, *ex officio* in the absence of a special appointment, as Judge of the Grand Court where, when sitting alone, he has the powers of three Justices of the Peace. He has no jurisdiction in cases of capital felony.

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I.—GENERAL.

Mail and Passenger Service.

The continuance through 1929 of the mail and passenger service with Jamaica established in 1927 under contract with the two governments has further shown itself to be of great public utility and, it is satisfactory to report, the venture due entirely to local enterprise and capital has been a financial success. A regular service has been maintained, also by motor-vessel, between Grand Cayman, the Isle of Pines in Cuba, and Tampa in the Southern United States of America.

Emigration and Immigration.

The restriction of emigration to the United States of America continues to bear adversely on the people of the Cayman Islands who from the earliest days had been, because of their industry, sobriety, and general good behaviour, well received as dock and barge labourers, mechanics, and clerks in the sea-ports of the Gulf of Mexico. Emigration, save that of seamen who find deep-sea employment in the ports of the Gulf, is now restricted to small numbers who seek work in Honduras, Nicaragua, and other Central American Republics. There is no immigration.

Legislation.

Four laws only were enacted during the year 1929. Numbers 1 and 4 were the usual Appropriation Laws for 1929 and 1930; No. 3 to validate certain special votes and small excesses in expenditure in 1928; and No. 2 amended the Coconut Palm Disease Law, 1913.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure in 1929 are shown below in comparison with the previous five years, and the average.

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1924	6,005	7,013
1925	6,970	6,622
1926	7,320	7,437
1927	6,148	7,651
1928	5,909	7,679
Average of five years	5,488	7,280
1929	6,962	7,022

Customs (£5,052), Post Office (£845), and Internal Revenue (£752), together contributed the major portion of the total revenue. Sales of stamps to collectors amounted to £209, as compared with £1,566, the average sales in previous ten years.

The expenditure may be summarized in Departments £3,491, Public Works £1,040, Education £1,500, and other services £989.

Unexpected charges in the year under review caused an excess of expenditure (£59) over revenue, and at the end of the year the surplus stood at £92. There is no public debt.

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III.—PRODUCTION.

The total exports amounted to £12,324, of which all were of domestic produce, and compare favourably with the average for the previous five years of £12,984.

The exports are mainly the products of the turtle fisheries, and of palm straw rope, a spare-time industry of women and children. The green turtle fishery has a single market, Key West in Florida, where the catch is disposed of for but two-fifths the price it realizes a week or ten days later in New York and other northern cities of America.

Recent enquiries as to phosphatic earth available in quantities have not yet resulted in shipments. Prospecting borings for oil, which some years ago occasioned much local excitement, have not yet taken place.

The following table shows items and values of exports in five years :

Articles.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£	£
Honey	63	98	140	155	5
Turtle, live	6,000	5,000	5,400	4,825	3,670
Turtle skin	840	206	437	1,011	893
Turtle shell	5,533	4,160	5,132	5,295	5,962
Rope, straw	1,754	1,710	1,972	1,647	1,450
Unenumerated	165	270	277	506	344
Totals ...	£14,355	£11,444	£13,358	£13,439	£12,324

The catch of green turtle, returned as of merchantable size, was smaller than in 1928. The hawksbill fishers were more successful than in 1928, the catch of shell weighing 4,590 lb. at an average value of £1 5*s.* 0*d.* per pound, as compared with 4,450 lb. at a lower rate of £1 4*s.* 3*d.* in the previous year.

The export of thatch-palm rope fell from £1,647 in value in 1928 to £1,450 in the year under review. This small industry provides an aid to livelihood to many who, being without a vigorous bread-winner would otherwise be unable to maintain themselves.

The building of small wooden sailing vessels which are registered locally but frequently pass to other British ownership, or to foreigners is an asset not capable of accurate estimate.

The destination of exports is shown in the following table ; the turtle shell sold in Jamaica is, however, passed to the London market.

Exports to.	*Food, Drink, etc.*	*Raw Materials.*	*Manufactured Articles.*	*Miscellaneous*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	—	600	—	—	600
Jamaica	30	6,529	1,451	17	8,027
United States ...	3,646	—	—	—	3,646
Other foreign ...	43	—	2	6	51
Totals ...	£3,719	£7,129	£1,453	£23	£12,324

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The imports reached a total of £42,710, or £1,975 more than the average imports for the previous three years. The values of spirits imported and re-exported in 1923 and 1924 gave a fictitious lift to trade in these years. This trade has entirely ceased.

The countries of origin are as far as possible shown in the following tabulation, but it must be borne in mind that many articles imported from Jamaica are the products of the United Kingdom, and of other countries, chiefly the United States of America.

Imports from.	*Food, Drink, etc.*	*Raw Materials.*	*Manufactured Articles.*	*Miscellaneous*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	687	—	2,189	126	3,002
Canada	443	—	108	37	588
Jamaica	10,326	587	3,789	327	15,029
United States ...	8,323	1,619	10,145	1,039	21,126
Other foreign ...	419	187	118	92	816
Parcels Post ...	—	—	—	2,149	2,149
Totals ...	£20,198	£2,393	£16,349	£3,770	£42,710

The excess of imports over exports is balanced by the remitted wages of seamen in every part of the world, the earnings of vessels owned in the Dependency but not worked in the turtle fishery, and the contributions to dependents here of men working ashore in the United States and in the ports of Central America.

Four cattle-dips were in operation during the months of tick activity, and material benefits in reduction of tick pest have accrued by their use.

Banking Facilities.

The are no local banks or branches of foreign banks in the Dependency. Remittances are made from abroad by drafts on American banks and on branches of banks established in Jamaica, which are accepted by any of the shops, and are used by them in remittances for the purchase of stocks of goods. The Post Office money-order system is used to some extent, the orders paid in the Dependency in 1929 amounting to £5,198, while the orders issued for payment abroad was £6,035.

The depositors in the Government Savings Bank number 56; the deposits for the year have been £1,364; the withdrawals have amounted to £895; and the balance due to depositors stands at £1,740. Investments made some years ago, with the Crown Agents as trustees, total £1,000.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

In the past all intercourse with the neighbouring islands, the coasts of Central America, and the southern ports of the United States has been by trading schooners, some of which in more recent years have had motor auxiliary. In the year 1927, however, a long desired mail,

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passenger, and freight service, by a specially built motor-vessel, was established with Jamaica, consisting of 15 voyages per annum, with three voyages to a gulf port in the United States. This service was given uninterruptedly in 1929, and was well patronised.

Postal and Telephone Services.

Foreign mails are received through Jamaica and the Isle of Pines, Cuba; and all outgoing vessels, to whatever port directed, are the bearers of mails. Tri-weekly mail services are maintained between the settlements on each island, and inter-communication is now frequent and regular by the operation of the Cayman Islands-Jamaica mail service. Boddentown, Georgetown, and West Bay, with three intermediate stations, are connected by telephone. The Dependency has no cable or wireless communication with the outside world.

Shipping.

Georgetown is a Port of Registry having on its register 53 small sailing and 9 motor vessels with a total tonnage of 3,244 tons. Three small vessels with a total tonnage of 132 tons were built and registered in 1929.

Three small steamships (1,284 tons), called at the islands in 1929. The following table shows the number and tonnage of the sailing vessels entered and cleared.

Nationality.	*No. entered.*	*Tons.*	*No. cleared.*	*Tons.*
British	183	14,856	181	13,640
American	6	695	6	695
Columbian	1	36	1	36
Honduranian	1	32	—	—
Nicaraguan	—	—	1	16
Panamanian	4	169	4	174
Totals ...	195	15,788	193	14,561

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

No serious crimes were reported during the year. Reports of predial larceny and other undetected petty offences are being made in increasing numbers. Twenty-nine persons were convicted in all classes of offences in 1929. Five persons were held in prison for safe custody and two persons for debt.

The Police Force consists of an Inspector and six constables, but the duties of the latter are largely in connection with the transfer and delivery of country mails.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Under this head may be mentioned the completion at Cayman Brac, East, of a Government office building for general purposes at a cost of £99. This will satisfy a long felt need in the district.

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VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Dependency is good. There were 155 births (29 per mille) and 53 deaths (10 per mille). Of the latter fourteen were over 75 years of age, fifteen between 50 and 75, ten between 25 and 50, none between 5 and 25, five between 1 and 5 years, and nine under one year. One death was returned as caused by pulmonary tuberculosis, and one by enteric. Malarial fevers are occasionally noted in persons who have resided for varying periods in the Central American Republics where the disease is endemic.

Population.

The population at the census of 1921 was enumerated at 5,253. The numbers at the end of 1929 are estimated at 2,140 whites, or near whites, and 3,710 coloured and black, total 5,850.

Meteorological.

Observations are taken at Georgetown only. The rain gauge was broken in the early part of the year and not replaced until November. The rainfall was estimated at 72 inches, the highest for many years. The heaviest precipitation was in October—say 21 inches, and the largest single day's rain was on 12th October—say 10 inches. The increased rainfall was very beneficial to agriculture generally, the crops of ground provisions such as yams, sweet potatoes, and Indian corn being the largest within recent years. The air temperature ranges from 70° F. to 80° F. in the months October to March, and ten degrees higher in summer. No cyclonic disturbances passed over the islands in 1929.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Ten Government primary schools were in operation throughout the year. These, with eight private schools, had 1,082 pupils enrolled and an average daily attendance of 902. The total expenditure in the Government schools was £1,629. Forty-three candidates at Grand Cayman and sixteen at Cayman Brac sat for the annual pupil teachers examination set by the Jamaica Education Department; twenty-one were successful in Grand Cayman and seven at Cayman Brac.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

There has been no survey of the Dependency. The first settlers (*circa* 1740) were given conditional patents of a thousand acres, but all record of the localities has been lost. All land is now held by right of occupancy and without any grant of the crown. The only areas recognized as remaining public are inaccessible or barren and valueless

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XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigrant labour and no local industry to attract it. Labour is entirely emigrant as seamen to the Gulf Ports of the United States seeking employment in deep-sea voyages, as wood-cutters and farm-hands in Honduras and Nicaragua, and, to a very small extent as clerks or miners in the latter Republic.

G. H. FRITH,
Acting Commissioner.

GRAND CAYMAN,
25*th April*, 1930.

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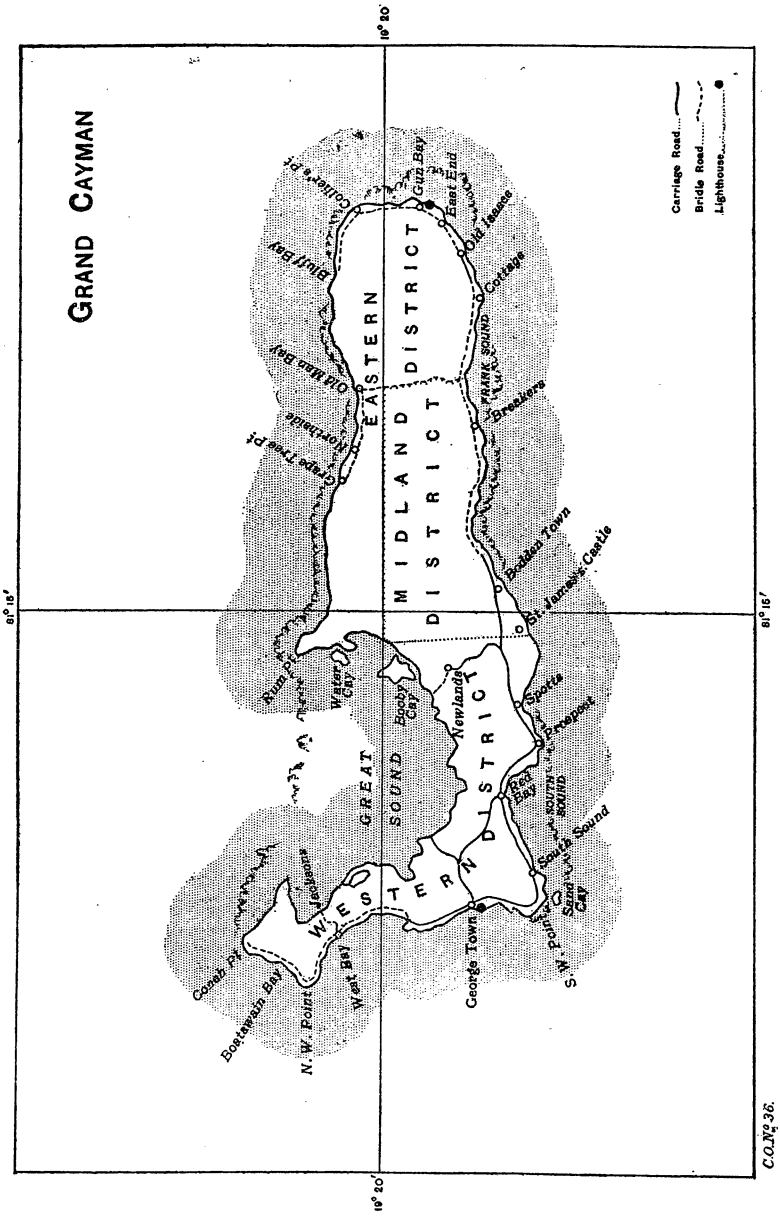

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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ST. VINCENT.
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1929.

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Geographical.

The Island of St. Vincent, which is of volcanic origin, is popularly supposed to have been discovered by Columbus on the 22nd January, 1498. It is situated in 13° 10′ North Latitude, and 60° 57′ West Longitude, at a distance of 21 miles to the south-west of St. Lucia, and 100 miles west of Barbados. It is 18 miles in length and 11 in breadth, and contains about 96,000 acres of land—about half the area of Middlesex. Of the Lesser Grenadines, a chain of small islands lying between Grenada and St. Vincent, Bequia, Mustique, Mayreau, Canouan, and Union Island are administered from St. Vincent.

Historical.

At the time of its discovery, St. Vincent, like some of the other small islands, was inhabited by the Caribs, who continued in the undisputed possession of it until 1627, when the King of England made a grant of the island to the Earl of Carlisle. In 1660 it was declared neutral, and in 1672 it was granted to Lord Willoughby.

In 1748 St. Vincent was again declared neutral by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. In 1756, however, hostilities were renewed and the island was taken in 1762 by General Monckton; and by the Treaty of Paris in the following year it was ceded to Great Britain, when General Melville was appointed Governor.

In 1773 an extensive portion of St. Vincent was allotted to the Caribs on condition that they acknowledged the King of Great Britain as their Sovereign.

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In 1779 the island surrendered to the French, and by the Treaty of Versailles, in 1783, it was restored to Great Britain.

Language.

The language of the Colony is English throughout.

Currency.

British and American gold, five-dollar notes of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), and British silver and bronze coins constitute the currency of the Colony.

Government accounts are kept in sterling and commercial and banking accounts in dollars and cents.

Imperial weights and measures are in use.

Climate.

St. Vincent is one of the healthiest of the West Indian Islands.

The climate may be divided into two seasons, wet and dry ; the dry season from January to May, and the wet from June to December. The coolest months are December to April. The temperature varies from 78° F. to 85° F. The highest temperature is met in July and the lowest in December.

The rainfall in Kingstown, the capital, registered at the Agricultural Experimental Station, 80 feet above sea level, was 81.96 inches for the year. The heaviest fall for one day was 2.24 inches on 24th September.

I.—GENERAL.

His Excellency the Governor visited the Colony on the 27th March, remaining until 15th May, and again from 4th to 17th July.

The Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station, landed for a few hours on the 6th April.

On the 11th December the Governor-General of Canada and his staff landed and drove round the Island.

The Inspector-General landed and inspected the Local Forces on the 29th May but did not remain.

His Honour the Administrator, Major H. W. Peebles, D.S.O., O.B.E., the newly appointed Administrator, arrived on the 3rd April and took the oath of office.

During His Excellency the Governor's visit in April the foundations for much needed development were laid, namely, the inauguration of the electric light for Kingstown, an extended programme for the reconstruction and oiling of the windward and leeward main roads, the erection of a pavilion in the Park, the widening of the bridge in the centre of the town connecting the windward and leeward highway. The reorganization of the Defence Force was also carried out during His Excellency's visit. An auxiliary yawl was also purchased for the purpose of linking up Kingstown, the Lesser Grenadines, and Grenada, thus enabling officers and inhabitants to visit these islands in comfort and with some assurance of arriving in reasonable time at their destination. Prior to this the journey had to be carried out by sailing vessel.

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Two matters of far-reaching importance were also carried through, namely, the alteration in the cotton planting season from May to September whereby the damage done by the cotton worm and black bolls (due to heavy rain) has been greatly deterred and a good yield obtained, and the establishment of a Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau, whereby planters, peasant proprietors and labourers can bring in their fruit and vegetables for shipment to England, Canada, and other markets, receiving cash payment. This has proved a great success and is greatly appreciated by the inhabitants. The value of export of fresh fruit rose from £388 in 1928 to £1,062 in the year under review.

II.—FINANCIAL.

The financial position of the Colony is sound.

	£
Net surplus at 1st January, 1929	20,566
Revenue in 1929	64,090
	£84,656
Expenditure in 1929	70,786
Surplus at 31st December, 1929	£13,870

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925	62,450	53,190
1926	60,243	59,282
1927	56,469	61,564
1928	64,593	60,441
1929	64,090	70,786

The increase in expenditure of £10,345 was mainly due to £5,000 being taken from the surplus assets of the Colony and invested to augment the Colony's Reserve Fund, thus bringing the Reserve Fund up to £16,000. Increased expenditure under Public Works Extraordinary accounts for a further £2,181, and £965 was expended on purchase and maintenance of the Government yawl " Sulaire " which plies between Kingstown, the Lesser Grenadines, and Grenada.

The principal items of revenue in the last five years were :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Import duties ...	26,379	26,683	24,649	28,137	26,440
Export duties ...	2,982	2,959	2,587	2,849	2,784
Excise duty on rum ...	5,816	6,479	4,685	4,137	5,183
Land and House tax ...	6,337	4,124	3,442	5,760	6,640
Income Tax	4,504	3,014	2,480	2,702	3,055
Liquor trade duty ...	2,736	3,013	2,820	3,127	2,710
Postage stamps ...	1,732	1,774	1,875	3,695	1,769

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The Public Debt of the Colony on the 1st January, 1929, was £8,360, of which £810 was redeemed during the year.

During the year a loan of £25,000 was raised through the Crown Agents from the joint Colonial Fund for the purpose of installing an electric lighting system in the town of Kingstown (£10,000), telephone reconstruction (£3,400), and road improvement (£11,600).

The debt at the close of the year was £33,060, made up as follows :

	£
The Public Works Loan, 1913	300
The Public Works Loan, 1914	600
*The Kingstown Board Loan, 1914	950
The Public Purposes Loan, 1915	1,000
The War Loan, 1916	1,500
The Windward Highway Loans, 1917, 1919, and 1920	3,200
Telephone, Electric Light, and Road Loan, 1929	25,510
	£33,060

The accumulated sinking funds provided for redemption of loans stood on the 31st December, 1929, at £5,827, of which £4,960 was in respect of Government loans and £867 in respect of the Kingstown Board loan.

The investments on behalf of the Loans Redemption Fund stood at the close of the year as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial Treasury Bonds 4½ per cent. ...	1,152	12	9
War Loan Stock 5 per cent.	2,602	15	8
Westminster Bank	1,204	6	2
	£4,959	14	7

The investments on behalf of the Kingstown Board Sinking Fund stood as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Westminster Bank	106	9	5
Imperial Government Treasury Bonds 5 per cent.	760	18	4
	£867	7	9

The unexpended balance of £25,000 of the Eruption Relief Fund, 1903, is invested and held as a reserve or insurance fund against any future disaster. The interest derived from this, namely, £750 per annum, is applied to the relief of the poor. This amount plus the Colony's Reserve Fund of £15,986 offers security both for elemental disasters and economic depression.

The Public Property Insurance Fund started during 1926 stands at £2,649.

* The Colony is only responsible for redemption of this loan in case of default by the Kingstown Board.

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III.—PRODUCTION.

Cotton.—Export of Sea Island cotton was poor owing to heavy attacks of cotton worm and soft rot on the 1928–29 crop. The altering of the planting season for the 1929–30 crop from April to September also affected exports.

282,903 lb. of lint were exported, being 66,343 lb. less than 1928. Export of Marie Galante lint was 63,217 lb. In addition 97,069 lb. of seed cotton were exported. During 1928, 36,214 lb. of lint and 35,815 lb. of seed cotton were exported. Converting seed cotton into terms of lint, we find that 87,484 lb. were exported in 1929, and 45,178 in 1928.

The area under cotton in St. Vincent and the Grenadines during 1929 was 2,867 acres—1,758 Sea Island and 1,109 Marie Galante—as compared with 3,386 acres of Sea Island and 995 acres of Marie Galante in 1928.

Arrowroot.—3,573,379 lb. of arrowroot were exported valued at £59,563. This shows a decrease of 297,041 lb. when compared with that exported in 1928. It is, however, an increase over the quantities exported during the three years previous to 1928. The United Kingdom took 1,529,599 lb. and the United States 1,078,093 lb. Increasing quantities were sent to Holland, France, and Barbados. The campaign inaugurated by the St. Vincent Arrowroot Growers' and Exporters' Association, resulted towards the end of the year in the suggestion being made that St. Vincent arrowroot should be handled in the same way as wheat is handled by the Canadian Wheat Pool. There is every indication that the pool system will be adopted by the St. Vincent arrowroot growers. This will stabilize and place the staple product of this Island on a sound business footing.

Sugar.—The sugar and syrup industry continues to expand. 1,075 tons of sugar (valued at £14,095) and 287,941 gallons of syrup (valued at £12,586) were produced. Sugar shows an increased exportation of 227,040 lb. and molasses 120,897 gallons over that of 1928. The market value of sugar was £13 per ton.

Coconuts.—The steady increase in the production of coconuts and copra continues. The exports of copra amounted to 1,879,558 lb., an increase of 25 per cent. over that of 1928. During 1928 a similar increase over 1927 was recorded. Copra was valued at £13 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton.

Of the minor industries there was a marked increase in the quantity of peas and beans and cassava starch exported, and a slight increase in the quantities of groundnuts and potatoes.

The building up of a fruit and vegetable trade took concrete form in the inauguration of a Peasants' Bureau,the name of which was subsequently changed to that of Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau. This was started under the management of Mr. M. T. Horner of Montserrat, in the month of August. During 1929 it

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shipped the following produce :—801 crates of avocado pears, grape fruit, green limes, mangoes, oranges, tomatoes, etc., 244 lb. of guava jelly, 684 lb. pf. peas and peanuts, 16 barrels of pumpkins and sweet potatoes, and 630 gallons of raw lime juice. All produce was graded and packed in a central packing house. A canning plant was purchased and erected, and such produce as tomatoes and pineapples were successfully canned.

The appended table shows the comparative amount of the annual exports of the principal commodities during the last five years :—

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Articles.	1925.		1926.		1927.		1928.		1929.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value
		£		£		£		£		£
Arrowroot ... ... lb.	3,190,412	53,174	3,291,553	45,807	3,195,478	58,309	3,870,420	64,508	3,573,759	59,563
Cassava Starch ... ,,	470,284	4,160	443,075	4,077	543,681	4,940	392,610	3,272	551,512	4,596
Cotton—Sea Island... ,,	473,219	57,655	589,499	63,175	446,274	39,204	349,246	28,549	282,903	24,261
Do.—Marie Galante ,,	9,673	464	30,275	1,514	53,381	2,669	36,214	1,358	63,274	2,373
Seed Cotton—Marie Galante. ,,	100,468	1,047	56,092	468	108,999	1,250	35,858	312	97,069	701
Cocoa... ... ... ,,	154,821	2,345	174,599	2,461	135,490	2,267	179,918	2,998	156,405	2,928
Copra... ... ... ,,	661,309	5,512	762,563	9,826	1,198,441	10,083	1,505,093	12,543	1,879,558	11,396
Sugar—crystallized ,,	—	—	—	—	840,000	5,947	2,080,960	14,190	1,075	14,095
Syrup and Molasses... gal.	268,118	19,672	337,099	16,523	171,063	10,459	167,044	9,478	287,941	12,586
Cotton Seed ... ... lb.	26,485	53	88,106	398	151,903	1,266	110,728	214	50	1
Peanuts ... ... ,,	273,039	3,794	190,978	2,370	263,509	3,219	334,098	4,176	358,890	4,486
Peas—Dried... ... ,,	90,476	866	50,185	476	38,719	352	96,386	876	176,791	1,671
Firewood ... cords	216	181	208	178	240	221	434	260	48	33
Whale Oil ... ... gal.	280	38	1,964	148	132	24	2,755	360	1,076	117
Cotton Seed Oil ... ,,	4	1	5,180	583	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hides and Skins ...	—	146	—	221	—	221	—	412	2,705	417
Vegetables, Fresh ...	—	2,581	—	2,107	—	1,915	—	3,468	—	3,148
Wool—Raw ... ... lb.	263	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Logwood ... ... tons	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spices—Nutmegs ... lb.	10,360	492	20,190	887	21,025	695	17,623	709	18,345	764
Other kinds ,,	2,418	100	5,062	333	5,817	255	4,599	419	5,629	645
Corn ... ... ,,	143,210	627	91,059	388	98,879	618	49,982	299	42,032	239
Animals	—	3,986	—	5,243	—	4,398	—	6,931	—	4,875
Lime Juice ... ... gal.	438	3	10	1	—	—	—	—	635	39
Fruit—Fresh ...	—	271	—	290	—	328	—	388	—	1,062
Various, unspecified...	—	839	—	946	—	1,175	—	164	—	1,574
		£158,037		£158,420		£145,815		£155,884		£151,570

In the reports for 1925 to 1927 the value of arrowroot exported in 1925 was incorrectly shown as £125,078 and the total value of Exports in the same year was consequently also incorrectly shown as £229,941. The correct value of arrowroot exported in 1925—£53,174—is now shown, making total value of Exports for 1925 £158,037.

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total values of imports and exports for the last five years were :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.		
		Island Produce.	*Other.*	*Total.*
	£	£	£	£
1925	211,907	229,941	2,491	232,432
1926	203,606	158,420	4,489	162,909
1927	172,097	145,213	602	145,815
1928	192,476	155,884	2,588	158,472
1929	186,439	151,207	363	151,570

The following table shows the value of imports and countries of origin for the past five years :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	75,914	67,425	55,812	62,335	58,030
Canada	46,108	45,373	40,540	45,787	49,382
British West Indies ...	15,180	10,896	12,789	11,873	11,350
India	646	3,476	1,229	1,098	888
Newfoundland	2,851	6,071	4,471	5,301	5,106
Ceylon	—	62	107	324	397
Other British Colonies ...	7,271	3,816	5,126	8,730	10,459
United States of America	46,302	46,737	36,663	44,127	37,645
France	1,736	2,845	1,485	3,189	3,424
Denmark	790	450	774	857	693
Germany	1,505	1,875	1,836	1,741	2,169
Holland	706	675	582	999	1,011
Foreign West Indies ...	669	550	1,003	720	384
Other Countries	3,547	3,266	3,494	3,812	4,110
Unclassified, including Parcel Post.	8,682	10,089	6,186	*1,583	*1,391
	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439

* Does not include Parcel Post.

The following is a summary of the imports for the last five years :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Class I.—Food, drink and tobacco.	68,717	71,423	64,104	69,274	70,301
Class II.—Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	19,547	19,402	16,735	18,075	16,792
Class III.—Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	114,777	102,521	84,954	103,192	97,810
Class IV.—Miscellaneous and unclassified.	8,866	10,260	6,304	1,925	1,536
Class V.—Bullion and Specie.	—	—	—	10	—
	£211,907	£203,606	£172,097	£192,476	£186,439

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The following are the percentages in the last five years of the principal countries from which imported articles are obtained :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	Per cent.	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*	*Per cent.*
United Kingdom	35·82	33·12	32·43	32·38	31·12
United States of America	21·85	22·95	21·30	22·93	20·19
Canada	21·76	22·28	23·56	23·79	26·49
All other Countries ...	20·57	21·65	22·71	20·90	22·20

The following is a summary showing the destination and value of exports during the last five years :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Country of destination.	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	167,116	92,576	68,452	68,930	62,000
Canada	19,149	10,992	10,276	16,435	15,446
Bermuda	132	221	305	292	434
British West Indies ...	30,079	36,716	35,619	39,653	41,252
British Guiana	1,306	649	747	272	788
United States of America	14,136	20,613	28,491	30,628	25,580
Other Countries	514	1,142	1,325	2,262	6,070

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total number of vessels entered for the year was 428, of a total tonnage of 491,825, as compared with 386, of 356,822 tonnage, in the previous year.

The total number of steam vessels entered was 169, showing an increase of 22 steam vessels over 1928.

The total number of vessels cleared was 430, of a total tonnage of 490,766 tons, an increase of 33,975 tons compared with 1928.

The Colony is now served by a regular fortnightly mail, passenger, and cargo service of the Canadian National Steamships.

The steamers of the Harrison, Furness Withy, Trinidad and Ocean Dominion lines paid calls during the year.

Mails and cargo are also sent and received by sailing vessels to and from Barbados, Grenada, and Trinidad, whence there is direct communication by sea to the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Roads.

The road system of the island consists of 34 miles of highway on the windward side, suitable for motor traffic, and 28 miles on the leeward side, about 15 miles of which are suitable for motor traffic.

The highway on the windward side is the main artery of traffic, but on the leeward side the sea is the natural highway.

In addition to the highways there are some 280 miles of by-ways which act as feeders from the interior to the main roads.

A loan of £11,600 was raised during the year for reconstruction and oiling of the roads.

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Postal.

The central post office is situated at Kingstown, the capital of the Colony. There are 17 post offices in out districts.

Mails on the windward portion of the Island are served by eight post offices. Mails to these post offices are despatched three times a week by motor transport. On the leeward coast the mails are conveyed daily by sea transport to the five post offices. The mails to the Lesser Grenadines, Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, and Union Island, are conveyed as often as sea transport is available. In the case of the Island of Bequia a contract exists whereby the mail is despatched three times a week.

142 steamers and 101 sailing vessels carried mails to the Colony.

There is no inland telegraph service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company maintain a cable station in Kingstown and there is a wireless station operated by the Pacific Cable Board. The question of having one central office for the two systems is now under consideration.

The revenue derived from the Postal Department was £2,269, whilst the expenditure was £1,735.

Telephones.

The Government maintains a telephone system which links up Kingstown, the capital, with exchanges in Georgetown, Mesopotamia, and Barrouallie, the two former in the windward and the latter in the leeward district of the Colony. Approximately 188 miles of line is maintained. The sum of £3,400, raised by means of a loan, has been allocated for telephone reconstruction.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(*a*) Justice.

Eleven criminal cases were tried by the Supreme Court. Nine actions were filed in the Supreme Court. Only five appeals from the Magistrates' decisions were filed. The number of Causes filed in the Summary Jurisdiction amounted to 23, as compared with 51 in 1928.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 1, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 400. 706 persons were charged in 1929, as against 770 in 1928. Fines collected amounted to £133, a decrease of £58 on the preceding year.

In the Magistrate's Court, District 2, the civil matters dealt with amounted to 1,314, as compared with 1,234 in 1928. 1,081 persons were charged, as against 1,164 in 1928, and 848 were convicted. Fines amounted to £277.

(*b*) Police.

The strength of the Force remained as in 1928, namely, two officers and 52 other ranks; of these four other ranks were permanently employed at the Prison.

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In May the Police and Prison Departments were entirely separated, one non-commissioned officer of Police being transferred to the Prison Department as Chief Warder, the remaining three constables were transferred to the Police.

The general health of the Force was good.

Discipline of the Force showed marked improvement.

Fire drill was carried out weekly.

The Police Recreation Room and Canteen continued to be well attended and greatly appreciated by the Force.

(*c*) **Prisons.**

At the beginning of the year the total personnel of the Prison consisted of 10, made up as follows :—

4 Constables (inclusive of the Keeper),
4 Warders,
1 Clerical Assistant,
1 Matron.

In May the Prison was separated from the Police Department, the personnel being :—

Sub-Inspector Police, Officer in charge of Prison,
1 Chief Warder,
4 Warders,
1 Assistant Warder,
1 Matron.

At the beginning of the year the number of prisoners was 20 male, 1 female.

The daily average was 27.28.

The highest number of prisoners at any one time was 45, the lowest 18.

The health of the prisoners was good and discipline good.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the year the item of most importance was the raising of a loan of £25,510 for the purpose of installing electric light in the capital town of Kingstown, the reconstruction of the telephone system and road improvement. Work on the electric light and the telephone system had to be deferred to 1930, but considerable work on oiling the roads with colas was accomplished.

The usual maintenance of roads and by-ways was carried out. Feeders to the main roads received special attention. These feeders are of vital importance to the development of the fruit and vegetable trade of the Colony, leading as they do to the various land settlements and peasants' holdings.

Buildings.

The Fort Institutions (Leper and Poor House) were greatly improved and renovated.

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Government Primary Schools received much-needed attention.
A dispensary was erected in the Island of Bequia.

Water Supply.

The water supply at Richmond Hill village and at the village of Stubbs were opened up and a more adequate supply obtained.

Tanks were erected in the Islands of Canouan and Mayreau with capacity of 6,000 and 5,000 gallons respectively.

Storm Damage.

On the leeward coast between Buccament Valley and Chateaubelair a large cloudburst took place, doing considerable damage to roads, habitations, and cultivation. Otherwise the Colony was exceptionally lucky as regards damage from the elements.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Colony at 31st December, 1929, was 51,995.

The birth-rate for the year was 35.31 per thousand, as against 38.75 per thousand in 1928.

Legitimate births numbered 497, and illegitimate births 1,339, the percentage of illegitimate births being 72.9 as against 72.2 in 1928.

The death-rate per thousand for the year was 19.41 as compared with 20.28 in 1928.

The deaths of infants under one year (exclusive of still-births) numbered 257, as against 251 in 1928.

There were 106 still-births, of which 15 were legitimate and 91 illegitimate.

There were 11 cases of enteric fever during the year, as against 10 in 1928 and 13 in 1927.

There were 305 cases of influenza recorded with 12 deaths.

There were 1,136 cases of diarrhoea in children under 2 years of age with 118 deaths.

The district returns show 723 cases of malaria with 8 deaths. 20 cases with one death were admitted into the Colonial Hospital. A small epidemic again occurred in the Buccament Bay settlement. Anti-malarial measures, similar to those taken in 1928, soon controlled the outbreak.

A course of lectures and demonstrations was given during the year for those desirous of qualifying as Sanitary Inspectors. Eight candidates took the course, 2 qualified and received local certificates of efficiency.

The Public Health Amendment Ordinance, No. 26, of 1929, increases the scope and power of the 1927 Bill.

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IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is not compulsory.

The following comparative table gives particulars in regard to primary education during the years 1927, 1928, and 1929 :—

	1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*
Number of Schools	28	30	30
Number of pupils on roll at 31st December.	5,732	6,620	7,083
Average attendance	2,969	3,410	3,757
Government Grant-in-aid	£3,686	£4,066	£4,281
Cost per head in average attendance	£1 4*s.* 10*d.*	£1 3*s.* 10*d.*	£1 2*s.* 9*d.*

Eleven of the 30 regular schools belong to the Government which bears the whole cost of their maintenance. Religious denominations provide and are responsible for the upkeep of the buildings of the 19 other schools. The salaries of all teachers and the equipment, etc., of all primary schools are met from general revenue.

There are six other schools maintained by religious denominations which receive small Government grants totalling £87 10*s.* 3*d.*

There are two scholarships provided by the Government, one for girls and one for boys, which are open to all primary schools for entrance of primary school children to the Boys' Grammar School and the Girls' High School.

The Government maintain and finance a secondary school for the education of boys—the Grammar School—and the Girls' High School. Fees charged are £2 per term for the boys and £2 per term for the girls.

There is an Island scholarship of £250 awarded biennially, tenable for not less than three and not more than five years at an approved University. The cost of passages to and from England is also defrayed.

The Town Board of Kingstown also award two scholarships, valued at £6 each, per annum (one for boys at Grammar School and one for girls at Girls' High School).

The reorganization of primary education has occupied the attention of the Government during the year, resulting in the revision of the Code, more adequate salaries to teachers, the better equipment of all primary schools, and repairs to buildings. To meet these much-needed requirements a substantial increase in the amount allocated by Government will be forthcoming in 1930.

The date of termination of the school year has been altered from 30th September to 31st December.

A substantial increase in attendance is anticipated, thus, it is hoped, obviating the necessity of compulsory attendance.

There are also 10 privately-owned schools in the Colony, the most important being that of Mr. Eustace with an average attendance of 29 boys and 13 girls, totalling 42. This school is a valuable connecting link between the primary and secondary schools.

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X.—CROWN LANDS AND SURVEYS.

The revenue collected during the year totalled £1,188, £777 being derived from Crown Lands and £411 from Land Settlement Lands.

Arrears amounted to £271. These arrears are largely due to market depression and will be paid up during the coming year.

In 1928 arrears amounted to £607.

One hundred and ninety-nine Title Deeds were issued.

No surveys were made by surveyors in private practice.

Fifteen surveys were carried out by the Government Department.

XI.—LABOUR.

There is no immigration of indentured labour in the Colony.

Large numbers of men and women emigrate to Santo Domingo, Curaçoa, and Aruba. The exodus to Santo Domingo is on the decrease, but emigration to Curaçoa has greatly increased as the work on the oilfields attracts large numbers, the pay being exceptionally good, and the work appeals to the native. Domestic service with high wages attracts the female population.

The average wage of a labourer on an estate in St. Vincent is 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day and certain perquisites, such as mountain garden lands and the keeping of stock on the estate. Task work on the estates, whereby the labourer can easily earn up to 2*s.* a day, is more popular than daily work. By far the greater part of work on estates is done by women who receive from 6*d.* to 9*d.* per day.

During the year extensive road reconstruction has taken place and the demand for labour exceeds the supply.

A considerable amount of money is remitted by labourers to their families from Curaçoa and Aruba.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Banks.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) is the only bank in the Colony.

The Government maintains a Savings Bank and pays interest at the rate of 3 per cent.

Agricultural Credit Societies.

There were twenty-one Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies at the beginning of the year, but seventeen of these were closed down owing to the lethargy displayed by the peasants and also due to inertia and lack of proper organization.

It is hoped to re-organize and re-start these on progressive and active lines as they are undoubtedly of considerable use to the peasants and the land settlements.

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Government Cotton Ginnery.

The purchase of Sea Island cotton and corn on a profit-sharing system is still carried out by the Government Cotton Ginnery and is greatly appreciated by the peasant proprietors.

Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau.

A Government Fruit and Vegetable Bureau was inaugurated by the Government during the year and has proved an unqualified success. The Bureau purchases, and ships to England, Canada, etc., every kind of fruit and vegetable brought in by the inhabitants, charging 10 per cent. for handling.

Map.

A map of the Colony is annexed.

H. PEEBLES,
Administrator.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SAINT VINCENT,
3*rd May*, 1930.

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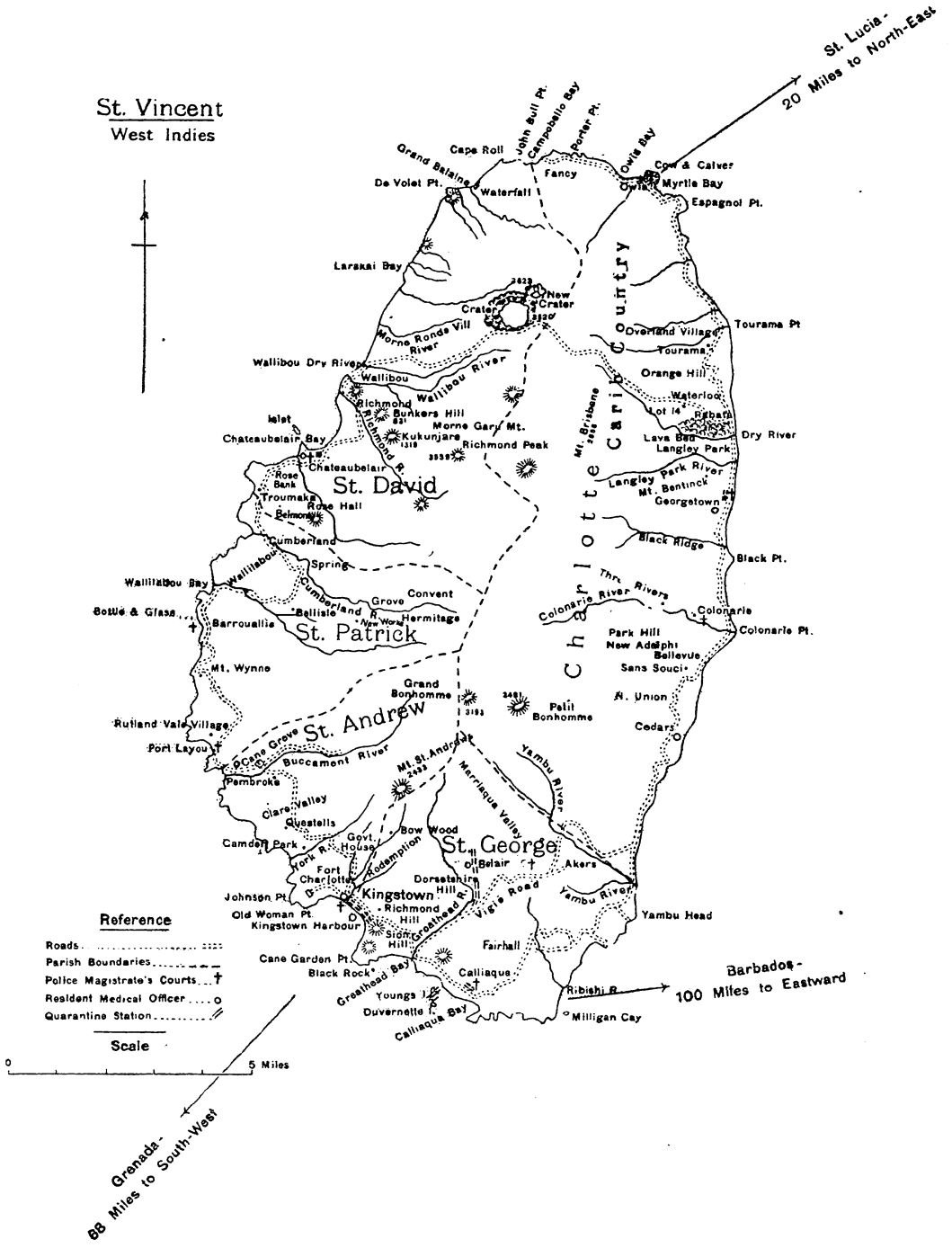

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NEW HEBRIDES.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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I.—GENERAL.

History.

The New Hebrides lie between the 12th and 20th degrees of South latitude, and the 165th and 170th degrees of East longitude, and are of an area of roughly 5,700 square miles. The principal port of the Group and the seat of Government is the township of Vila, on the island of Efate, in the southern part of the Group and about 5 or 6 days' steam from Sydney, New South Wales.

Santo, the largest and one of the northernmost islands of the Group, was discovered by Quiros in 1606, who touched at the Bay of St. Phillip and St. James (Big Bay). Under the impression that he had located the long-sought Southern Continent he named it "Tierra Australis del Expiritu Santo," and it is recorded that a

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settlement was established at the River Jordan, but was later abandoned on account of sickness and dissensions with the natives.

Nothing further was heard of the Group until the year 1768, when Cook touched at various points and, in the year 1774, charted and named most of the larger islands.

At about the same period of Cook's discoveries the French navigator, Bougainville, sailed between the islands of Santo and Malekula thereby disproving Quiros' theory as to the existence of the great Southern Continent. The strait through which he passed still bears his name.

In 1788 the French Government expedition under La Perouse is supposed to have visited these islands, but came to an untimely end at Vanikoro, in the Santa Cruz Group, a little to the north of the New Hebrides.

The Banks Group, forming part of the Northern New Hebrides, was sighted by Bligh in 1793.

D'Entrecasteau, Dumont d'Urville, Belcher, Markham, and others, are among the early voyagers whose accounts of these islands are of interest.

The New Hebrides for many years was practically a "no man's land," and a favourite hunting ground for recruiting vessels, but, in the year 1887, a Joint Naval Commission was appointed, charged with the protection of the lives and property of the subjects of the two nations—France and England—in the islands. The Commission was composed of two officers from each of the English and French warships in these waters and was presided over alternately by the British and French Commanders.

In 1895 an Arbitration Court was formed by the colonists, but the Joint Naval Commission pronounced its veto and the Court was dissolved.

In 1902 the first British Resident Commissioner was appointed, the French Government having a short time previously appointed a similar official.

Geography.

The islands of the New Hebrides, with which are included the Banks and Torres Groups, form an incomplete double chain stretching in a north-north-west direction for a length of 550 miles and consist of about 80 islands. Santo is the largest with an area of approximately 1,500 square miles and a coastline of over 200 miles. Of the smaller islands there are about 18 averaging a little over 5 square miles. The larger islands are high (highest point 6,169 feet) and show extensive exposures of volcanic rocks underlying areas of raised coral

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terraces, which latter reach in some cases an elevation of quite 2,000 feet. The smaller islands are often wholly volcanic. There are three principal volcanoes in the Group, which are usually active, situated on the islands of Tanna, Lopevi, and Ambrym. Santo contains numerous small rivers, only navigable, however, to minor craft.

The Group has three good harbours. Vila, Efate, the headquarters of the Administration, lies on one of these harbours. It is a small town built on the surrounding hills, which extend to the beach, on which are to be found the principal business houses.

Languages.

The European languages spoken in the Group are English and French. There is no unification of the native language ; each island speaks a different tongue, and there are many different dialects in the same island. The lingua franca is pidgin-English.

Currency, etc.

English and French currencies are legal tender in the Group, and British and French systems of weights and measures are in use.

General.

By the Convention of 20th October, 1906, a Condominium was set up with a Joint Court composed of British and French Judges and a neutral President ; and an executive Government consisting, for some purposes, of the British and French representatives in the Group acting in concert. For other purposes British and French nationals remain subject to the control only of their national authorities. The Convention of 20th October, 1906, has been superseded by a convention of 6th August, 1914, which was ratified in March, 1922.

The British and French Resident Commissioners are subordinate to the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific and the High Commissioner at Noumea respectively.

The year was marked by a serious volcanic eruption of Mount Benbow, on the island of Ambrym, which occurred on the 28th June. The main lava flows proceeded in a westerly and south-westerly direction for a distance of approximately twelve miles, where they entered the sea ; two subsidiary flows worked along the coast for a distance of three miles—practically forming a triangle with Mount Benbow as the apex. At places the lava flow was a mile in width.

About five hundred natives were forced to evacuate the island. Most of them were taken to Port Sandwich on the coast of Malekula and were temporarily housed and fed by the Joint Administration, missionaries, and traders, and various native villages along the coast

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The eruption terminated on the 30th June. Considerable damage was done to native villages and gardens and some damage to European property in the vicinity of the lava flows. The majority of the evacuated natives returned to Ambrym some weeks after the eruption had subsided and settled in various villages which had escaped destruction. There were no serious European casualties and few native casualties. The last occasion on which Mount Benbow erupted was in 1913.

During July the French cruiser "Tourville" (Capitaine Abrial) visited the Group and stayed at Vila for four days. During September the cruiser H.M.A.S. "Australia" (Rear Admiral Evans) also visited Vila, remaining for six days.

II.—FINANCE.

By Article 5 of the Convention of 1914 each of the two Powers is required to defray the expenses of its own administration in the Group. The expenses of the joint services are defrayed out of local taxation. The joint services include the Posts and Telegraphs, Customs, Public Works, Port and Harbour, Treasury, Medical Service, Joint Court, Summary Courts, and the Land Registry. In the event of revenue from local taxation proving insufficient to meet expenditure, the two signatory Powers are bound to contribute to the deficit in equal proportions. No such contribution has been required since the year 1921.

The stabilising of the franc during the latter part of 1928 had a beneficial effect on local finance during the year under report. Under the Convention, both English and French currency are legal tender in the Group, but, during the period of fluctuation of the franc, payment in British currency was not favoured by French commercial undertakings. This has now adjusted itself, and British currency is more in evidence than during the preceding years. The bulk of the revenue of the Condominium is received in French currency.

There are no banks in the New Hebrides. The French commercial houses carry out their banking business with the Banque de l'Indo-Chine in Noumea, New Caledonia, and the British with banks in Australia. Most of the commercial houses act as banks for their clients within the Group. The Joint Administration maintains a bank account in Noumea and in Australia, and controls the necessary ratio of sterling currency required for administrative purposes. The Banque de l'Indo-Chine has a local note issue, which facilitates financial transactions within the Group. Very little French coinage is seen in the Group, but British silver is fairly plentiful. For local purposes the exchange rate of 124 francs to the £ sterling has been adopted throughout the Group.

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Revenue and Expenditure.

Condominium Revenue.

Year.	*French currency.*		*British currency.*	*Remarks.**
	Francs.		£	*Converted at*
1925	1,420,714	or	14,066	francs 101=£
1926	1,777,199	or	11,540	francs 154=£
1927	3,037,711	or	24,497	francs 124=£
1928	3,463,551	or	27,932	francs 124=£
1929†	3,618,073	or	29,178	francs 124=£

Condominium Expenditure.

Year.	*French currency.*		*British currency.*	*Remarks.**
	Francs.		£	*Converted at*
1925	2,508,212	or	24,833	francs 101=£
1926	1,217,599	or	7,906	francs 154=£
1927	2,220,479	or	17,907	francs 124=£
1928	3,568,404	or	28,777	francs 124=£
1929†	3,196,439	or	25,777	francs 124=£

Over four-fifths of the Condominium revenue is derived from import and export dues and the balance from Post Office and telegraph receipts, court fees and fines, port dues, trading licenses, and miscellaneous receipts. The bulk of the imports are subject to a 6 per cent. *ad valorem* duty and the exports a 1 per cent. *ad valorem* duty. Other import duties are 12 per cent. *ad valorem* in spirits and tobacco and 20 per cent. *ad valorem* on lace, perfumery, and fancy goods. The customs duties are set out in Joint Regulations Nos. 2 and 3 of 1927.

Expenditure on Services Entirely British.

	£
1925–26	20,248
1926–27	15,693
1927–28	16,048
1928–29	11,966

The above expenditure is defrayed from funds provided by Parliament on Civil Estimates, Vote for Colonial and Middle Eastern Services Class II, 9. Certain miscellaneous receipts, such as court fees, rent, etc., totalling usually a few hundred pounds each year (£1,482 for 1929), are now applied in reduction of the Vote on which expenditure is provided for. The expenditure on British services includes, among other things, the personal emoluments of the British national staff, Police Force, and the District Agents.

* During 1925 and 1926 the value of the franc fluctuated considerably so that the rates 101 and 154 must be regarded as approximate.

† Partly estimated.

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III.—PRODUCTION AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

The year 1929 has not shown the customary increase in production as compared with preceding years. The table of exports shows an apparent decrease of 1,972 tons of produce, but this was due to the fact that towards the end of 1929 there were no facilities for shipping produce. Nevertheless it may be accepted that production for 1929 does not show any substantial increase on 1928. The cause may be partially assigned to local hurricanes, which occurred in the northern and southern islands of the Group in the first half of the year, and to the fact that some of the large companies operating in the group have been concentrating on improving their properties rather than increasing their output.

Copra, the principal product exported, shows a decrease of 1,895 tons. Of the total amount produced, viz. :—10,787 tons, roughly a quarter can be assigned to native production, the bulk being produced on European plantations. The British export of copra for 1929 was 33 per cent. of the whole. The prices realized for this commodity showed a marked decline, the average price for the year being £13 10s. per ton, as compared with £16 for 1928, and £20 for 1927. Practically the whole of the copra produced is shipped direct to Europe.

Cocoa showed an increase of 625 tons, but the average price obtainable locally was only £43 per ton as against £55 for the preceding year. Coffee and cotton remain at approximately the same figure for 1928, but the prices obtainable were 2d. per lb. less than that year. It seems likely that cotton and coffee will be more extensively cultivated in the near future, but the present low market prices being realized for these commodities have not acted as an incentive to increased production. Most of the seed cotton is ginned locally and exported to Europe.

There is an increase of 200 tons in the production of maize. This was caused by a sudden demand for maize in New Caledonia, but the market proved to be but temporary and it is unlikely that maize will be extensively cultivated, owing to lack of markets, although it is easily produced in the New Hebrides.

It will be noted from the appended table that the value of exports, as compared with the previous year, shows a decrease of £59,849. This is due to the low prices which have prevailed generally for all kinds of agricultural products and is not the result of any substantial difference in production or quality.

The position generally at the close of 1929, though discouraging from the viewpoint of market prices, is not unsatisfactory in so far as agricultural development is concerned, and there are indications of a substantial increase in agricultural production in the near future. The British share of the export trade remains at approximately 25 per cent. as in previous years.

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EXPORTS.

Comparative Table in Tons and Sterling.

Produce.	*1925.*		*1926.*		*1927.*		*1928.*		*1929.*	
	Tons.	*Value.* £	*Tons.*	*Value.* £	*Tons.*	*Value.* £	*Tons.*	*Value.* £	*Tons.*	*Value.* £
Copra	7,371	162,154	8,382	184,318	10,204	204,090	12,682	208,954	10,787	147,460
Cocoa	1,495	59,808	1,949	87,731	2,344	140,697	1,422	77,685	2,047	89,088
Cotton	*1,015	56,294	*1,420	44,556	†501	40,170	551	43,468	329	31,700
Coffee	287	10,111	274	21,890	123	4,842	96	5,534	100	6,530
Trochas	112	8,073	85	4,686	86	4,299	61	2,627	57	2,980
Maize	194	1,358	207	1,659	118	949	303	2,277	482	4,355
Sandalwood	22	554	57	1,435	23	384	54	898	49	957
Wool	23	6,129	32	7,222	5	601	22	2,453	8	963
Cotton seed	316	541	987	1,467	880	880	1,198	1,210	657	1,060
Miscellaneous	248	2,379	304	19,265	63	1,116	336	975	237	1,139
Totals	11,083	£307,401	13,697	£374,229	14,347	£398,028	16,725	£346,081	14,753	£286,232

* Mixed.

† Ginned.

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Import values fell from £374,797 in 1928 to £300,035 in 1929, which is a corollary to the decrease in export values. French importers accounted for £242,828 and British £57,207, or about 19 per cent. of the whole.

IMPORT VALUES.

Year.	*British currency.* £	*French currency.* *Francs.*	*Remarks.** *Converted at*
1924	92,201	7,929,327	francs 86=£
1925	217,863	22,004,232	francs 101=£
1926	197,840	30,457,405	francs 154=£
1927	307,939	38,184,562	francs 124=£
1928	374,797	46,474,828	francs 124=£
1929	300,035	37,204,343	francs 124=£

CHIEF IMPORTS FOR 1929.

	Quantity.	*Value.* £
Beer (cases of 24 bottles) ...	1,902	2,594
Spirits ,, 12 ,, ...	6,547	7,170
Fine Wines (cases of 12 bottles)...	5,417	6,300
Light Wines (barrels of 220 litres)	1,122	7,100
Petrol (gallons)	80,288	7,930
Lubricating Oil (gallons) ...	16,392	2,725
Paraffin (gallons)	83,392	6,670
Cigarettes	1,941,800	1,600
Tobacco (kilos)	25,274	10,796
Cement (bags of 180 kilos) ...	5,608	2,930
Salad Oil (cases of 12 bottles) ...	716	1,162
Rice (sacks)	29,688	31,110
Sugar (sacks 30 kilos)	7,153	4,700
Tinned Fish (cases)	6,038	6,600
Tinned Food (cases)	9,537	20,480
Flour (sacks)	11,043	8,580
Gunny Bags (bales)	1,178	10,267
Motor Cars...	11	2,176
Building Materials	—	2,900
Tinned Milk (cases 48 tins) ...	1,548	2,160
Biscuits (various)	—	4,592
Agricultural Machinery	—	4,186

Imports of British origin are small by comparison with others.

Beers are mostly German or Dutch, wines practically all French, and spirits British.

* During 1925 and 1926 the value of the franc fluctuated considerably so that the rates 101 and 154 must be regarded as approximate.

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Tinned foods are nearly all American, some small portion being French and Australian. Tinned fish is mostly American, Canadian, French, and Portuguese. Tinned milks are mostly Swiss. America sends most of the lubricating oil, petrol, and kerosene. Flour is almost wholly Australian. Timber for boat building originates in Australasia for the most part, while softer kinds are nearly all brought in from America. Rice emanates from the Eastern Pacific as a general rule, while about 90 per cent. of the sugar comes from Java, about 10 per cent. coming from Martinique. The greater part of the tobacco and cigarettes are of French manufacture, the smaller portion of finer quality being mostly British. Biscuits are about equally divided between British and French. Motor cars are French and American. Most of the gunny bags are imported from Calcutta.

Sydney, New South Wales, is the chief local port of supply of general necessities of life. A considerable quantity of imports, including most wines and spirits, come, however, direct from Europe in French steamers. Oils, petrol, and some tinned foods are transhipped in Noumea from America.

The principal importing firms are : (British) Messrs. Burns Philp (South Sea) Co., Ltd., of Vila ; (French) Les Comptoirs Français des Nouvelles Hébrides, Société de Béchade—both of Vila and Santo ; La Compagnie Franco-Hébridaise, Vila and Santo ; Les Etablissements Hagen of Epi, and the Banks Group ; and Messrs. Gubbay Frères of Vila. Other important Companies of the Group are also importers, such as La Société Cotonnière des Nouvelles Hébrides, and La Société Minière et Agricole of Malekula and Santo respectively.

There are six small trading steamers employed in the inter-insular trade, of which five are under the French flag and one under the British. Each carries a well stocked " trade " room, from which the settler may draw his supplies. Produce is mostly carried to Vila where it is transhipped to vessels of the Messageries Maritimes and other French and Dutch lines for shipment direct to Europe ; though a small quantity, chiefly cocoa, is shipped to Australia.

There are five important stores in the township of Vila, one of which is British ; in addition, about a dozen small shops are in the hands of Chinese and Japanese traders.

Wages and Cost of Living.

The standard of living, which in the interests of health it is necessary to maintain in the New Hebrides, must be as high as circumstances permit. At Vila, the seat of Government, living is fairly expensive, as there are few facilities for the individual to maintain gardens or keep livestock. In other parts of the Group living is much less expensive, as there are facilities for so doing. Supplies of fresh meat, fish, eggs, and poultry, and from time to

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time fresh vegetables, are obtainable in Vila, but prices are high. Native labour in Vila commands 5*s*. per day and food. Domestic servants are difficult to obtain and it is invariably necessary to train them in domestic duties. Wages for servants vary from 25*s*. to 30*s*. per month for a female, and 30*s*. to 40*s*. for a male. The New Hebridean does not like working as a domestic for long periods; twelve months is usually the maximum period he or she will serve.

There are no hotels in the Group, but at Vila it is sometimes possible to obtain board and lodging at a French hostelry.

The following table gives the average prices for foodstuffs, etc., during the year under report :—

Flour	3*d*. per lb.
Sugar	4*d*. ,,
Potatoes	4*d*. ,,
Fresh Meat	7*d*. ,,
Onions	3*d*. ,,
Butter	2*s*. 11*d*. per lb.
Tea	3*s*. 6*d*. ,,
Coffee	3*s*. ,,
Eggs	3*s*. to 4*s*. per dozen.
Poultry	5*s*. to 7*s* each.
Tinned Meat	1*s*. 6*d*. per tin.
Wood fuel	5*s*. per meter.
Kerosene	10*s*. per tin (4 gallons.)

Fresh milk is obtainable at Vila, but the supply is limited. Underwear can sometimes be purchased locally, but it is usually necessary to obtain all wearing apparel from Australia or Europe. Practically all perishable commodities are imported from Australia.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

Europe.—The following vessels of the Messageries Maritimes line maintain a two-monthly service between the terminal ports of Dunkirk and Noumea (New Caledonia) and call at Vila on both inward and outward voyages: S.S. "Andromede," "Ville de Verdun," "Ville de Strasbourg" and S.S. "Antinous." The route is via Tahiti, Panama, Martinique, and Marseilles, and the period of the voyage approximately sixty-five days from Vila. Messrs. Ballande and Company also run three large cargo steamers, with limited passenger accommodation, from Vila to Marseilles, via the Dutch East Indies, several times during the year to ship their own merchandise.

Australia.—The S.S. "Makambo" (Burns Philp line) and the S.S. "La Perouse" (Messageries Maritimes) maintain five-weekly communication with Sydney, New South Wales—the former via

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Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands, and the latter via Noumea, New Caledonia.

New Caledonia.—Communication is maintained with Noumea by the S.S. " La Perouse " every four to five weeks, and by the Messageries lines of steamers previously mentioned, approximately every two months. The French inter-island steamers also pay fairly frequent visits to Noumea.

Inter-Island.—The following steamers make monthly or five-weekly voyages round the Group. They have no fixed itinerary, but usually connect at Vila with the British and French mail vessels.

S.S. " Malinoa " (Burns Philp, South Sea, Company), S.S. " St. André " and S.S. " St. Michel " (Messrs. Comptoirs Français des Nouvelles-Hébrides), S.S. " Néo Hébridais " and S.S. " Pervenche " (Société de Béchade), S.S. " Kobiloko " (Etablissements Hagen), Inter Cruiser " Lolita " (Naturel Frères).

The port of Vila is the port of entry in the Group. The tonnage entered and cleared during 1929 is as follows :—

ENTERED.

	Tons.	
British	16,787	(19 vessels).
French	105,496	(41 vessels).
Other	4,363	(3 vessels).
	126,646	

CLEARED.

British	16,139	(18 vessels).
French	106,076	(43 vessels).
Other	4,363	(3 vessels).
	126,578	

Roads.

During the year under report some improvements have been made to the roads in and around the town Vila. Extensions and improvements to the several main roads, which give access to the outlying districts of the island of Efate, have also been made. The construction of a ford over the river La Colle, which is nearing completion, will give uninterrupted communication between Vila and Devil's Point—a distance of seventeen miles.

The maintenance and construction of roads is usually carried out by contract with local planters, but during the year 1929 the

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Administration purchased road machinery and a part of the upkeep and repair of the roads has been done by the Public Works Department.

There are few roads proper in the other islands of the Group, with the exception of Tanna which has several good roads, one of which traverses the island.

The use of motor transport by all sections of the population of Efate has increased the importance of road construction.

Railways.

There are no railways proper in the Group. A two-foot rail track runs from the outskirts of Mélé to Vila—a distance of about four miles—and is used for various commercial purposes. The small wharves, privately owned by the commercial houses in Vila, are also provided with rails for the transport of merchandise from the bulk store sheds.

Posts.

Mail communication from and to Europe and Australasia is maintained by the mail steamers S.S. "Makambo" and S.S. "La Perouse," which call at Vila and various island ports every five weeks. These lines are subsidized by His Majesty's Government in Australia, and the French Government, respectively. The mails both inward and outward are sorted at Vila and rebagged for distribution round the Group by selected officers on the mail and inter-island steamers, who receive an allowance from the Condominium Government for the services performed. The average time taken for European postal matter to reach Vila by the regular mail routes is forty-two to forty-nine days. The Condominium Government has a postage stamp designed to represent the dual control. There are two sets of stamps—one British and one French. Both are inscribed in English and French currency.

The postal matter handled by the Vila Post Office for 1929 was as follows :—

——	*From, or to, British territory.*		*From, or to, French territory.*		*Other places.*		*Total.*
	Received.	*Despatched.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	
Letters	25,000	19,000	64,000	42,000	3,000	2,000	155,000
Other articles ...	48,000	2,500	35,000	6,000	500	500	92,500
Registered articles	600	700	5,061	5,000	141	182	11,684
Totals ...	73,600	22,200	104,061	53,000	3,641	2,682	259,184

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Radio-Telegraph.

There is no cable communication with the New Hebrides, but the Condominium Government maintains a radio-telegraph station at Vila, which is worked by British and French Operators. The call sign is F J X and messages can be received and transmitted on the following wave lengths :—

Receipts ... ... 17 to 30 metres and 600 metres.

Transmissions ... ... 600 and 800 metres.

The greater part of the traffic is with Noumea, New Caledonia ; There is a daily service with Suva, Fiji, and when conditions permit communication is established with other stations in the Pacific. The terminal charge of the Vila station is 3*d.*, or 1 franc 50 centimes, per word. The total expenditure on the station for 1929 was £1,266 and the receipts on account of traffic £840. Of this sum £330 was paid to other stations as their share of the charges.

A table is given below showing statistics for the year under report :—

Messages.	*Received.*	*Despatched.*	*Total.*
Government Messages ...	798	890	1,688
Other Messages ...	1,662	1,704	3,366
Totals	2,460	2,594	5,054

The Vila station was built in 1917 and the developments in wireless telegraphy which have taken place since that date have now made it necessary that the station should be modernized. This matter is now receiving attention.

Telephones.

Telephone communication is established in the town of Vila and the outlying districts. The system is operated by a central exchange and the service is continuous. There are 53 telephones and 74 miles of wire. During the hurricane season the service is liable to interruption. There are no telephone systems in the other islands of the Group.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Convention of 1914 provided for the immediate introduction of three Courts, namely the Joint Court, and the French and British National Courts, and the subsequent formation of two others—Courts of First Instance and Native Courts.

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The scope and functions of these Courts is briefly as follows :—

(1) *Joint Court.*—The Court is composed of a British and a French Judge, with a President of neutral nationality. There is also a Public Prosecutor and a Native Advocate. The Joint Court is a Court of final adjudication in matters of a purely Condominium nature. Broadly speaking, and subject to certain exceptions, its civil jurisdiction is confined to certain proceedings in respect of rights over immovable property—its chief function being that of a land Court governing the registration of indefeasible titles to land. It may also settle cases between any parties, native or non-native, brought before it by consent of both. Its criminal jurisdiction, broadly speaking, is confined to offences—(*a*) connected with the recruitment of native labourers or (*b*) committed by natives against non-natives, or (*c*) committed by natives against natives in areas where the Native Code is in force and involving a penalty of over one year's confinement, or (*d*) against the Convention or Joint Regulations passed in pursuance thereof in areas where no Court of First Instance exists.

There is an appeal to the Joint Court from all judgments of Courts of First Instance and from important civil judgments of Native Courts. The Joint Court also has certain revisionary powers in criminal cases of Native Courts, and judgments of Courts of First Instance involving sentence of imprisonment.

(2) *Courts of First Instance.*—The composition of these Courts consists of a British and a French District Agent with a British or French Assessor chosen by lot. Their jurisdiction is over breaches of the 1914 Convention, or of Joint Regulations made thereunder, except those connected with the recruitment of native labour.

(3) *Native Courts.*—These are composed of either a British or French District Agent, assisted by two native Assessors. The British and French Agents preside over the Court in turns, month and month about. A necessary corollary to the full and complete functioning of these Courts is the promulgation in the area of the Native Code.

(4) and (5) *National Courts.*—The British and French Governments have established in the Group, in conformity with their existing legal systems, Courts with jurisdiction over all civil cases, other than those reserved to the Joint Court, and over all criminal cases in which a non-native is the defendant. In civil cases the jurisdiction over actions between non-natives belongs in some cases to the Court of the Power under whose law the contract was concluded, or the act or thing in question originated, and in other cases to the Court of the Power to which the defendant belongs. In criminal cases, non-natives are justiciable by the Court of their own nationality or the nationality applied to them.

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Courts of First Instance have so far been set up in Central Districts Nos. 1 and 2.

A Code of Native Criminal Law has been instituted, and two Native Courts—one in the Central District No. 1 and one in the Southern District—have been formed to administer Penal Law only within their competence and jurisdiction.

There were no serious cases of crime during the year. The Joint Court delivered 20 judgments concerning breaches of Joint Regulations and of the Convention of 1914, and dealt with two cases of offences by natives against non-natives.

Police.

The policing of the Group is carried out by two separate forces of Armed Native Constabulary, British and French, each in charge of a National Commandant under the orders of the respective Resident Commissioner. The headquarters are at Vila ; small detachments are located at each of the District Agencies on the islands of Tanna, Malekula, and Santo, respectively, in order to assist the District Agents in the carrying out of their duties.

The British force is composed of natives recruited from the islands of the New Hebrides, and the French force partly of New Hebrideans and Loyalty Islanders. In addition the French have enrolled a number of Tonkinese police, for the purpose of facilitating police operations among the Tonkinese coolies in the Group.

The duties of the native constabulary consist in the maintenance of law and order among the native population of the more civilized areas, general police and patrol work, the guarding of native prisoners, and the repression of native disorders.

Both the British and French Commandants, in addition to their duties as police officers to the Condominium, also act as police officers in so far as their own nationals are concerned, and are charged with the conduct of police cases before their respective national Courts.

The cost of the maintenance of the two forces is defrayed by the respective national Governments, except when the two corps are acting jointly, when the expenses are met from Condominium funds.

Natives of the islands are enlisted in the Police generally for periods of two years. Some re-engage ; some do not ; but it is safe to say that the two years spent under discipline is one of the most civilizing influences in the New Hebrides.

Prisons.

Each Government maintains its own national prison, which is situated in the town of Vila, and accommodation is provided for both natives and whites. The cost of maintenance of prisoners sentenced by the national tribunals is met from national funds, and that of natives sentenced by the Resident Commissioners and the native and mixed Courts, from Condominium funds.

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There is no Condominium prison staff. Each Commandant acts as prison keeper and is responsible for the supervision of prisoners placed in his charge. He is assisted by police constables who act as warders.

In addition to the national prisons at headquarters, each District Agency is provided with a temporary lock-up in which natives under short sentences are confined.

Native prisoners are employed in works of general utility, such as the making and cleaning of roads, weeding Government paddocks, transport of material to various Government buildings, etc.

The daily average of native prisoners confined in the British prison was 3.3, and in the French prison 4.5. Two prisoners died in the British prison. Generally speaking, the health of prisoners was good.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Condominium maintains a Public Works Department, controlled by a Superintendent and an Assistant. Building material is imported from Australia. Dwelling houses are usually imported cut and ready for erection, as the supply of skilled artizans is very limited. Practically all buildings are constructed of wood, or galvanized iron, with wood or steel frames, owing to the frequency of earth tremors. The construction and maintenance of roads and bridges is carried out by local contracts in conjunction with the Works Department. Labour is difficult to procure and commands a high rate of wage. The expenditure on Condominium public works for the year under report amounted to approximately £6,900.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Climate.

The New Hebrides islands are classed as unhealthy. The climate, though very enervating, is not worse than that of many other tropical places. The year is divided up, generally speaking, into two seasons, the hot and wet season, commencing in November and ending in April, and the dry and cool season from May to October. Of late, however, the tendency is for the line of demarcation to become less clear, there being considerable periods of drought in the rainy season, and vice versa in the dry season. The temperature in the island of Efate ranges from a minimum of about 63°F. in the cool season to a maximum of about 89°F. in the hot. The hot season is the most unhealthy owing to the extreme humidity and the prevalence of mosquitoes. Also it is so enervating as to make recovery from an illness somewhat prolonged. The cool season is generally speaking healthy and very pleasant. The southern islands of the group are cooler and healthier than the north—the latter

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being about 7°F. warmer on the average. Provided careful attention is paid to the general conditions of living, sufficient but not too much exercise taken, and moderation in habits is observed, a satisfactory state of health may be maintained. One of the chief enemies of good health at Vila is the scarcity of green vegetables and good quality fresh food generally. As a general rule it is desirable that a visit be taken to a temperate climate every two or three years, especially in the case of women and children. Children do not thrive in the New Hebrides and it is desirable that they should be sent to a temperate climate after the age of four.

Diseases.

Malaria is the principal disease. It is more prevalent in the northern islands than the southern, owing to the difference in climate and rainfall. Quinine is usually administered to sufferers by injection, which has the advantage of not deranging the digestive system. Planters and missionaries in out-of-the-way parts are beginning to use injections of quinine in preference to taking it by mouth. Amoebic dysentery is endemic throughout the year and epidemic in the hot season. Both these diseases are being combated with success by measures of sanitation. Black water fever occurs occasionally among Europeans. The indigenous population suffers chiefly from yaws, hookworm, malaria, and dysentery. The various hospitals in the group, both Government and Missionary, treat the natives for these complaints. The special campaign against yaws and hookworm, under the auspices of the Rockefeller Institute, is dealt with elsewhere.

Hospitals.

The following hospitals and medical aid posts are to be found :—

Tanna.—A well equipped hospital run by the Presbyterian Mission and subsidized by the British Government.

Efate.—Two well equipped hospitals at Vila ; the John G. Paton Memorial Hospital, administered by the Presbyterian Mission and subsidized by the British Government, and the French Government hospital.

Epi.—A Medical Aid Post in charge of an Annamite Medical Practitioner.

Malekula.—A hospital at Norsup run by private enterprise (Compagnie Cotonnière), and a Medical Aid Post at Port Sandwich in charge of an Annamite Medical Practitioner.

Santo.—French Government hospital at the Segond Channel, recently extended and enlarged.

All these institutions are open to white residents, Asiatics, and natives, and do excellent work. The statistics for 1928 and 1929

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in respect of the British and French hospitals at Vila are given below :—

Cases.	British Hospital.		French Hospital.		Total.
	Europeans.	Natives and Asiatics.	Europeans.	Natives and Asiatics.	
"In" patients—					
1928	30	450	177	2,672	3,169
1929	39	342	201	2,191	2,773
"Out" patients					
1928	—	439	890	9,628	10,957
1929	23	300	1,400	4,500	6,223
Total 1928 ...	30	889	1,067	12,300	14,126
1929 ...	62	642	1,601	6,691	8,996
Deaths 1928 ...	—	14	12	86	112
1929 ...	2	16	10	88	116

Sanitation.

There are no modern systems of sanitation in the New Hebrides. Vila, the capital town, is still without any sort of water works or drainage. The only source of water supply is the roofs of the houses. These form a catchment area from which water is collected in rainy weather into large galvanized iron tanks. In periods of drought water runs short and frequently has to be transported for some distance, for purposes other than drinking. The tank system has the disadvantage of providing breeding places for mosquitoes, unless adequately protected. They have, on the other hand, the advantage of providing an extremely pure source of drinking water which it is practically impossible to contaminate.

Most Europeans adopt the pit system of latrine, but nearly all the houses occupied by officials are now provided with septic tanks, which, with reasonable care, have proved the most satisfactory method available.

During the year legislation was brought into force in Vila, providing penalties for various offences against hygiene, and a Sanitary Commission was set up with powers of inspection of all private and public premises. At the same time a sanitary service was organized, which is responsible for the daily collection and disposal of refuse and rubbish from all over the town.

The combination of the three has undoubtedly been a success and has resulted in a marked improvement. A Regulation has also been introduced to enforce a rigorous inspection of all meat tendered for human consumption. This has been followed by an appreciable improvement in the quality of meat obtainable.

A quarantine station was in the course of erection at the end of the year.

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Report of the Condominium Medical Officer.

There has been a marked improvement in public health in the year 1929. There has been no epidemic and less endemic disease than usual. Malaria and dysentery have abated as a result of the sanitary measures that have been inaugurated during the year. These have served the double purpose of daily removal, firstly, of tins and broken bottles, a fertile source of mosquito propagation, and secondly, of refuse and rubbish dumps, one of the chief breeding places of flies, which are the main carriers of dysentery.

Hookworm and yaws are being treated with success under the auspices of the Rockefeller Institute.

Native Medical Welfare.

During the year 1929 the Rockefeller Foundation, in conjunction with the Condominium Government, commenced a yaws and hookworm campaign in the Group. A large percentage of the natives of the New Hebrides are infected with hookworm (ankylostomiasis) and yaws is prevalent in many of the islands.

Work was commenced early in February, and the southern islands were visited first. Centres were established at Lenakel and Whitesands, and four sub-centres on North and South Tanna, for examination and hookworm treatment. In the treatment of yaws intravenous method of injection was employed, and no difficulty was experienced in getting the natives to present themselves for examination and treatment. The treatment for hookworm was usually given first, followed by two and sometimes three injections for yaws—depending on the severity of the case. It was found that in normal cases two injections were sufficient to effect a cure. On the completion of treatment in the southern islands, the campaign was extended to the first central district, and towards the close of the year to some of the islands in the second central district. It is the intention that every island in the Group shall be systematically treated, and there is no doubt as to the beneficial results of the treatment. The immediate results obtained by intravenous injections of salvarsan in the case of yaws is spectacular, and in consequence appeals strongly to the natives. During the year under report over 11,000 natives were treated for both diseases. A table is appended, showing details of the work performed.

In conjunction with the Rockefeller Foundation, the Condominium Government is also maintaining two students at the Suva Medical School, who, when qualified, will be attached to the Condominium Medical Staff for native medical work in the New Hebrides.

At the present time there are four European qualified Medical Officers in the Group who devote themselves to native medical welfare, in so far as the exigencies of their duties permit, and who receive an allowance from the Condominium Government for that purpose. One of them carries out the duties of Medical Inspector for natives and makes periodical tours in the Group for that purpose.

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Statistical Report on Work done for the Relief and Control of Hookworm Disease and Yaws in the New Hebrides for the Year ending 31st December, 1929.

Islands.	*Census.*	*Given Hookworm Treatment.*	*Examined for Yaws.*	*No. with Yaws lesions and history.*	*Given injections for Yaws.*			*Total.*
					1st.	2nd.	3rd.	
Tanna	5,319	4,744	5,201	4,286	3,340	2,987	150	6,477
Futuna	243	220	243	225	233	233	23	489
Aniwa	155	143	155	149	136	136	—	272
Aneityum	182	170	182	136	174	86	—	260
Vila Natives...	922	413	773	512	718	432	24	1,174
Nguna	501	447	501	382	484	478	155	1,117
Pele	74	71	74	50	72	70	23	165
Undine Bay	76	70	76	61	72	—	—	72
Lilipa...	119	100	119	89	108	—	—	108
Moso and Seviri	106	92	98	90	102	—	—	102
Emau	322	290	322	254	314	261	—	575
Mataso	75	64	74	55	74	58	—	132
Makura	133	115	133	95	129	128	—	257
Emae	227	184	223	190	216	202	—	418
Tongoa	1,120	922	1,055	737	1,040	910	52	2,002
Tongariki	238	200	238	194	234	216	25	475
N.W. Epi and Larmanu ...	881	829	881	562	870	731	35	1,636
Paama	1,751	1,576	1,751	1,265	1,730	1,650	183	3,563
S.E. Ambrim	1,039	930	1,039	704	1,020	1,001	47	2,068
Plantation natives, Vila ...	136	130	136	105	136	4	2	142
Dispensary	238	210	207	144	220	136	45	401
Tonkinese	1,255	1,082	—	—	185	—	—	185
Total...	15,112	13,002	13,481	10,285	11,607	9,719	764	22,090

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IX.—EDUCATION.

There are no schools controlled or supported by the Condominium Government, nor are there any facilities for European children to receive anything but a primary education, which is not of a very high standard.

The town of Vila has three schools (1) a school for girls, supported and controlled by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart Mission; (2) a boys' school, supported and controlled by the Marist Mission; and (3) an infants' school, run by the French Government. Admission to these schools is not restricted to the children of European parentage and the entrance fees are purely nominal.

The British and French Missions in the Group have various good schools and training institutions for the benefit of the natives. The Presbyterian Mission maintain an excellent school at Tangoa, South Santo, and can accommodate up to sixty pupils. They also maintain other schools throughout the Group. The Melanesian Mission have a good school at Lolowai, Aoba, and schools in the Banks Group. The Seventh Day Mission have a utilitarian school at Aore island, Santo, which is equipped with modern machinery for teaching all kinds of woodcraft. The Marist Mission also maintain schools in various islands of the Group.

All these institutions carry out excellent work among the natives and deserve commendation.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

Land owned by white settlers in the New Hebrides was acquired originally from native owners, either by purchase or barter. Ownership at the present day is based on these native deeds, but such deeds do not constitute a valid title until judgment has been pronounced upon them by the Joint Court. The procedure in regard to obtaining titles to land in the New Hebrides is set out in Articles 22 to 27 of the Protocol of 1914. Approximately 1,000 claims have been lodged at the Joint Court, representing an area of approximately 2,150,000 acres.

Up to the close of the year under report 54 indefeasible titles had been granted, all on the island of Efate. The speed with which titles are granted is dependent to a large extent on the land surveys of the properties affected and the claims of opposing applicants for title. A staff of surveyors is attached to the Court, but, owing to the nature of the country and the large tracts of land which require checking and surveying, progress is necessarily slow. In the grant of land titles due consideration is given to the requirements of the indigenous population, and, when necessary, reserves are set aside for them. An official Native Advocate is appointed by the two Governments to assist the natives in any disputes with white claimants. The Torrens system of land title has been adopted in the New Hebrides.

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XI.—LABOUR.

The supply of indigenous labour for agricultural, industrial and commercial purposes falls far below the demand, and considerable difficulty is experienced by planters in harvesting their crops. The employment of native labourers under contract is regulated by the provisions of the Protocol of 1914, and also by additional national legislation in the case of British settlers. The New Hebrides native is disinclined to engage himself for any lengthy period and prefers short contracts of a few months' duration.

The inadequate supply of local labour for French undertakings was met by the French authorities by the introduction in 1921 of Tonkinese from French Indo-China. At the present time there are approximately 6,000 Tonkinese in the Group. They are engaged to French settlers for a period of five years and then repatriated. The Tonkinese makes a fairly good labourer, but it is generally conceded that he is not equal to the New Hebridean as a worker.

XII.—POPULATION.

Non-Native.

A statement is appended giving details of the non-native population of the Group.

Description.	*British.*			*French.*		
	Adult Males.	*Females and Children.*	*Total.*	*Adult Males.*	*Females and Children.*	*Total.*
Nationals	129	98	227	369	428	797
Foreigners opted under Convention ...	9	4	13	17	—	17
Asiatics opted under Convention ...	28	—	28	56	—	56
Protected subjects and citizens:						
Tonkinese ...	—	—	—	4,045	1,351	5,396
Javanese ...	—	—	—	21	9	30
Totals ...	166	102	268	4,508	1,788	6,296

Native.

The natives are Melanesians, but in places there is a mixture of Polynesian blood.

The conditions of the Group do not permit of any reliable census of the native population. The total is probably not more than

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60,000 and in general the population is on the decrease. The following gives an approximate estimate of the more thickly populated islands :—

Malekula, 9,000 ; Pentecost, 7,000 ; Santo, 7,000 ; Tanna, 6,500 ; Aoba, 6,000 ; Ambrym, 5,000 ; Epi, 3,000 ; and Efate, 1,700.

From reports received, the islands of Tanna and Tongoa showed a tendency to an increase in birth-rate during 1929.

XIII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

A hurricane occurred in the southern islands of the Group during March and caused considerable damage to the crops. No other violent disturbances occurred during the year. The table below shows the rainfall at four stations in the Group for 1929, and the mean annual for the past five years :—

Year.	*Dillons Bay* (*Erromanga*). 18·47 *S.* 168·58 *E.*	*Port Vila* (*Efate*). 17·44 *S.* 168·18 *E.*	*Hog Harbour* (*East Santo*). 15·05 *S.* 167·67 *E.*	*Port Patterson* (*Vanua Lava, Banks Is.*). 13·50 *S.* 167·34 *E.*
1925	61·25	74·56	127·44	128·44
1926	62·34	73·06	133·34	137·50
1927	59·77	74·26	134·41	143·42
1928	47·51	72·03	135·62	142·12
1929	64·17	80·51	136·81	140·62
Mean Annual for five years ...	59·00	74·88	133·32	138·42

G. A. JOY,
Resident Commissioner.

BRITISH RESIDENCY,
VILA, NEW HEBRIDES.
10*th April*, 1930.

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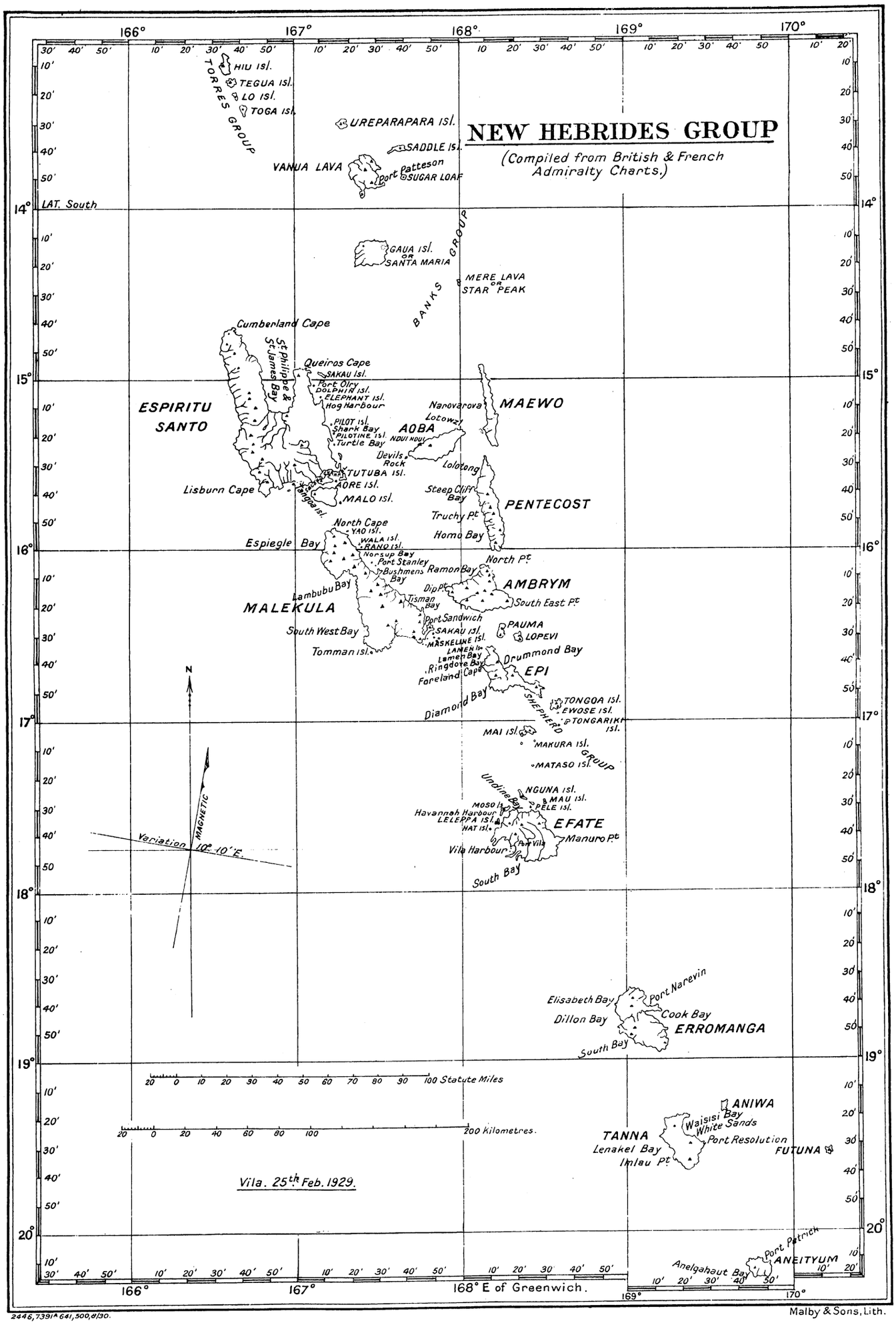

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ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1929.

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Situation and Area.

The Seychelles Islands are situated between the parallels of S. lat. 4° and 5°; the estimated total number of square miles comprised in the group and in the dependencies of Seychelles is 156¼. The number of islands under the Seychelles Government is 92.

Mahe is the largest and most populous island and is distant from Mauritius 934, from Madagascar 600, and from Zanzibar 970 miles. It is mountainous and fertile, and has an area of about 55 square miles.

The other chief islands within a radius of 60 miles from Mahe are Praslin (9,700 acres); Silhouette (4,900 acres); La Digue (2,500 acres); Curieuse (900 acres); Felicite (800 acres); North Island (525 acres); Ste. Anne (500 acres); Frigate (500 acres); Denis (340 acres); Cerf (290 acres); and Bird or Sea Cow Island (160 acres).

The following islands are also dependencies of Seychelles:—The Amirantes, Alphonse Island, Bijoutier Island, St. François Island, St. Pierre Island, Providence, the Cosmoledo Group, Astove Island, Assumption Island, Coetivy, the Farquhar Islands, and the Aldabra Islands.

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History.

The islands are believed to have been discovered by a Portuguese named Pedro Mascaregnas, 1505, but the discovery was not apparently followed by any attempt at colonization.

Previous to the French occupation they were the resort of pirates who infested the Indian Ocean, some of whose names are borne by descendants in Mahe at the present time.

Under the Government at Mauritius of Labourdonnais, whose name they originally bore, their position was first defined in 1743, and M. Picault, who took possession of the islands in the name of the King of France, called the principal island Mahe. Later on the group was renamed the Seychelles Islands, in honour of the Vicomte Moreau des Séchelles, who was Controller-General of Finance under Louis XV from 1754 to 1756.

During the war of the French Revolution Mahe was extremely useful to French ships as a place of refuge and refitment, but on the 17th May, 1794, it was captured by Captain Newcome, of His Majesty's Ship *Orpheus*.

The last French Governor, Mr. de Quincy, who was born at Paris in November, 1748, became (after the departure of Lieutenant Sullivan, R.M., who had been placed in charge) the first Agent Civil under the British Government. Mr. de Quincy's reign as French Governor lasted 20 years. He remained for 18 years in the service of the British Government, and died on the 10th July, 1827.

The capitulation was renewed in 1806, but it was not until the capture of Mauritius in 1810 that Seychelles was formally taken possession of by the appointment of an Agent, and incorporated as a dependency of that Colony. A board of Civil Commissioners was appointed in 1872, when the finances of the Seychelles were separated from those of Mauritius.

In 1897, the Administrator was given full powers as Governor, and Seychelles was practically separated from Mauritius. The separation was completely carried out in 1903, when Seychelles was constituted a separate Colony under its own Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Climate.

Although almost on the equator, the climate of Seychelles is quite healthy and, owing to the absence of the anopheline mosquito, malaria does not occur.

The maximum shade temperature rarely exceeds 86° F., but even at night the temperature seldom falls below 74° F. Thus during the whole year the temperature only varies over a range of about 12° F.

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The hottest weather occurs during the months of March and April, but though the difference in temperature is only slight, living in a climate where the temperature is almost constant makes one very susceptible to changes of temperature of only a few degrees.

The rainfall averages about 90 inches, although in some years it has reached 115 inches. The heaviest rains occur in December and January, though showers are frequent throughout the year. The Colony is free from the cyclones which do so much damage to crops in the southern portion of the Indian Ocean.

Population.

The population of the Colony on the 31st December, 1929, was estimated at 27,588, an increase of 3,065 since the census of 1921.

There were 176 marriages, or 24 less than in 1928.

The births in 1929 numbered 844, which corresponds to a rate of 30.59 per 1,000.

The deaths amounted to 495, or 17.94 per 1,000.

Government Finance.

The total revenue collected amounted to Rs.762,061, an increase as compared with 1928 of Rs.10,428. Customs revenue produced Rs.387,228 compared with Rs.325,707 the previous year.

The expenditure totalled Rs.767,189.

The following is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last four years :—

Year.	*Revenue.* Rs.	*Expenditure.* Rs.
1926	662,541	713,692
1927	736,886	663,267
1928	751,633	731,672
1929	762,061	767,189

The assets of the Colony on the 31st December, 1929, exceeded the liabilities by Rs.578,501.

The investments of the Colony were as follows :—

	Rs.
On account of General Revenue	677,687.62
On account of Savings Bank	85,032.07

Public Debt.

The balance remaining due to the Imperial Treasury on account of the loan of £20,000 made to Seychelles in 1900 for road making was £958 12s.

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Savings Bank.

The balance standing to the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1929, was Rs.241,034, an increase of Rs.42,818 compared with 1928.

Trade, Agriculture, and Industries.

The total value of the trade of the Colony (exclusive of imported specie) was Rs.3,957,026 as compared with Rs.4,179,049 in 1928.

Imports.

The total value of the imports (exclusive of specie) was Rs.1,813,283 compared with Rs.1,644,719 in 1928. The imports from the United Kingdom show an increase of Rs.170,679; the imports from India show a decrease of Rs.60,472. The imports from French possessions show a decrease of Rs.4,343 as compared with 1928.

Exports.

The total exports were valued at Rs.2,143,743 compared with Rs.2,434,330 in 1928. The exports to the United Kingdom show a decrease of Rs.74,945.

The principal countries to which produce was exported were the following :—

	Rs.
United Kingdom	229,096
British Possessions	1,087,931
France	41,436

Agriculture.

The Coconut Industry.—This is the most important of the Colony's industries.

The total export of copra during the year amounted to 4,582¼ tons as compared with 4,982¾ tons in 1928. About 19,360 coconuts were exported during the year under review as compared with 27,500 the previous year. Coconuts sold locally during the year at a price of about Rs.30 to Rs.40 per thousand, while copra averaged about Rs.250 per ton.

Essential Oils.—After the copra industry, the distillation of essential oils holds the place of next importance in the Colony's industries.

The distillation of cinnamon oil was continued energetically and increasing interest has been shown in the distillation of patchouli, basilic, lemon grass, and clove oil.

The total export of essential oils of all kinds amounted to 70,677 litres.

The export in 1928 amounted to 62,323 litres.

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Vanilla.—The total export of vanilla during the year amounted to 4,607 kilos as compared with 1,311 kilos in 1928.

Rubber.—The total export of rubber during the year amounted to 2,041 lb. as compared with 19,172 lb. in 1928.

Fisheries and Natural Resources.

The majority of the natives of the Colony are born sailors and the number who fish to earn a living is therefore considerable. Fish and turtle are very plentiful, but the number of the latter is said to be diminishing. Turtles are brought from the outlying islands to Mahe. In Victoria they are kept in turtle ponds until required.

In connection with the fishing industry the following exports were made during the year :—

	Kilos.	*Declared value. Rs.*
Tortoise shell	995	26,704
Green turtle shell	633	274
Turtle strips	1,314	1,234
Shark fins	865	865
Calipee	4,226	4,982
Fresh fish	1,043	214
Trepangs	6,061	6,126

The export of guano during the year amounted to 12,780 tons, the declared value being Rs. 265,585.

Legislation.

Ten Ordinances were passed by the Legislature during the year.

The principal Ordinances were :—

No. 6.—" An Ordinance to regulate the use of Motor Vehicles."

No. 7.—" An Ordinance to regulate the fisheries of Seychelles."

Education.

Education is not compulsory.

There are 27 Grant-in-Aid Schools at which free elementary education is given. Twenty-one of these schools are Roman Catholic, attended by 1,985 children, an increase of 55 since 1928. The average attendance was 1,473.5 or 74 per cent. of the total number of children on the registers. The remaining six schools are Church of England with 397 pupils an increase of 26; the average attendance has increased from 254 to 302.5. This represents 76 per cent. of the numbers on the roll.

Apart from those 27 schools, there are two schools which are not registered, one Roman Catholic at Port Glaud with 46 pupils and one Church of England at Bel Ombre with 14 pupils.

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With effect from the 1st January, 1924, the Government Schools ceased to exist and a portion of the Victoria School building was handed over to the Church of England educational authorities, whilst the remainder of Victoria School and the Ashanti Camp School were handed over to the Roman Catholic Church. This change was brought about as the result of a joint scheme put forward by the Bishops of the two denominations. The Government still maintains an Inspector of Schools, whose duty it is to exercise a supervision over primary education throughout the Colony.

There are three secondary schools, St. Louis College, St. Joseph's Convent, and St. Paul's School, with 195, 162, and 46 pupils respectively; fees are charged. At all these schools candidates are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations. Fifty-seven candidates were entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in 1929 of whom 15 obtained a Preliminary, 14 a Junior, and eight a School Certificate. Thirty-five candidates (girls) were also offered for the Higher Education of Girls; of these 34 passed.

A scholarship of the annual value, free from Income Tax, either of Rs.1,200 tenable for five years, or Rs.1,500 tenable for four years, is awarded every second year to one scholar of Seychelles to enable him to pursue his studies in any part of the British Empire outside Seychelles. The Scholarship is awarded on the results of the London University Examination to the candidate who shall have passed in the First Division and who is recommended for the scholarship by the Examiners.

Government assistance is given in the shape of grants, exhibitions, and local scholarships. The total amount spent on education was Rs.36,109.29 cts., of which Rs.22,214 was a grant-in-aid to primary schools.

Communications.

Roads.—There are over 150 miles of roads and bridle paths in the Colony. Only about 30 miles, however, are now suitable for motor traffic. Regrading and widening of roads for motor traffic are being proceeded with.

Mail and Postal Service.—The revenue of the Postal Department amounted to Rs.23,215 and the expenditure to Rs.23,508. The mail service during the year was good and mails were despatched on 44 occasions. The British India Company's steamers call on their voyage from Bombay to Mombasa once every four weeks and on their return journey once every eight weeks. Mails are also despatched by various cargo steamers which call at irregular intervals. An effort has been made to speed up the delivery of mails to the public on mail days by landing them at the White Shed and conveying them to the Post Office by motor lorry. The number of extra sorters employed on mail days has also been in-

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creased for the same purpose. As a result it is found that the delivery of mails to private letter boxes commences approximately $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours, and to the public at the counter 3 hours, after the mail steamer anchors. All public letter boxes in the town area and country districts have been inspected and repainted during the year and repairs carried out where necessary.

Parcels from Europe are received via Bombay, but parcels from Seychelles are despatched via Bombay or Mombasa.

Telegraph and Telephone.—The Eastern and South African Telegraph Company maintains a station at Victoria and gives a very satisfactory service. Seychelles is now an important cable junction, there being cables to Zanzibar, Mauritius, Aden, and Colombo.

Telegraphic communication with the outside world was maintained throughout the year. There are no public telephones in the Colony; but a Wireless Telephone Service was inaugurated in June, 1926, between Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue. The tests with ships referred to in the previous report were continued during the early part of the year using an experimental aerial suspended above the Post Office and the results obtained were so consistently satisfactory that, in spite of the very low power of the transmitting set (40-50 watts) it was recommended that the station at Victoria should be officially registered and opened for public communication with ships at sea. It was also decided to remove the Victoria Station to a site adjacent to the Post Office to facilitate its operation and control.

These recommendations having been approved, application was made for official registration, certain necessary stores and spares were ordered, and the removal of the station to the new site was commenced. The work having been duly completed, stores received, and the station registered before the end of the year arrangements were made to open the station (Victoria Radio) on the 1st January, 1930.

The opening of the local service between Mahe and La Digue, which it was hoped would coincide with the above, has unfortunately been delayed owing chiefly to lack of trained personnel, as the operator for La Digue, whose training was almost completed, had suddenly to leave the service owing to ill-health. Arrangements are being made to train another operator and it is hoped to open the local service during the course of next year.

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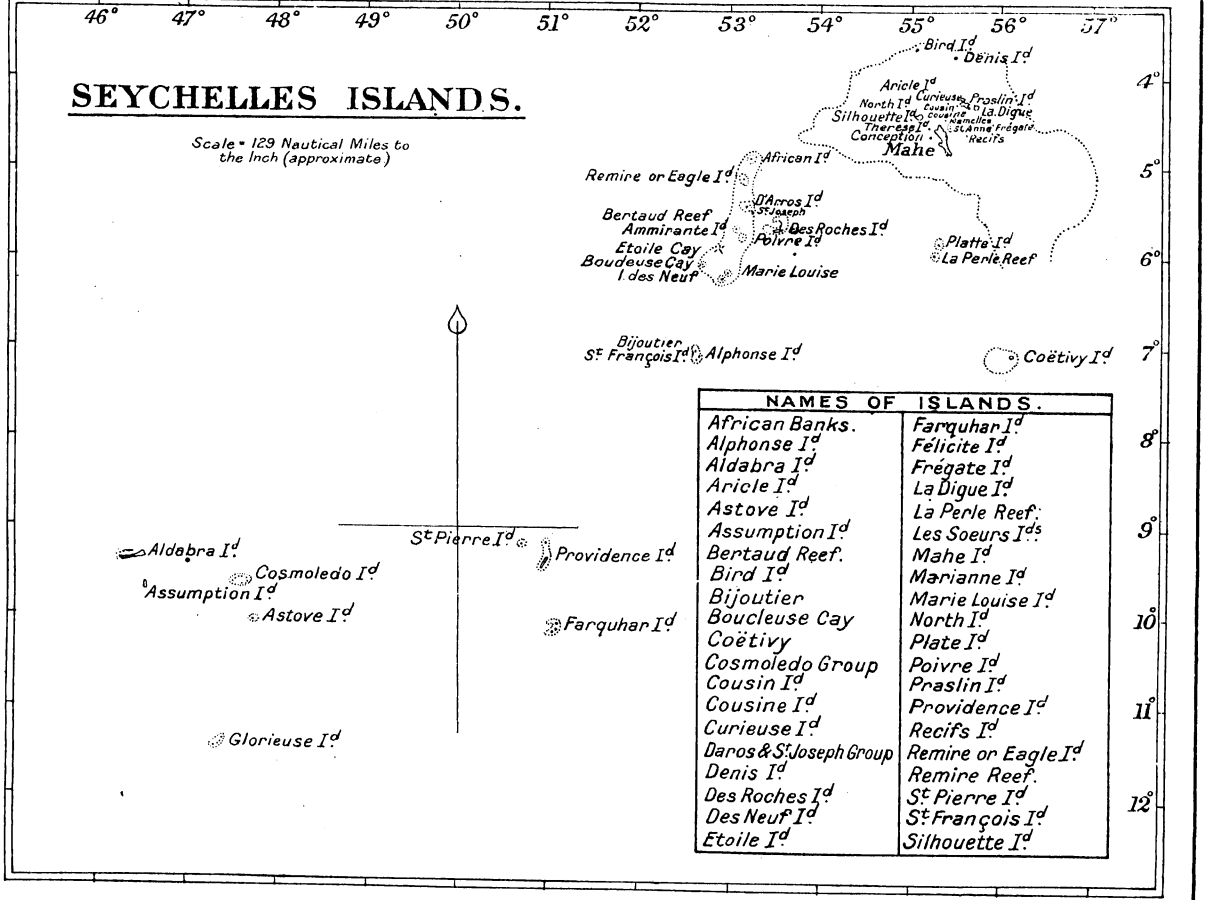

NAMES OF ISLANDS.	
African Banks.	Farquhar Id.
Alphonse Id.	Félicite Id.
Aldabra Id.	Frégate Id.
Aricle Id.	La Digue Id.
Astove Id.	La Perle Reef.
Assumption Id.	Les Soeurs Ids.
Bertaud Reef.	Mahe Id.
Bird Id.	Marianne Id.
Bijoutier	Marie Louise Id.
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WEIHAIWEI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Historical, Geographical, and Descriptive.

Weihaiwei is a leased territory which has been under British rule since 1898. It is administered by a Commissioner appointed by the Crown and directly responsible to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. His powers are identical with those of the Governor of a Crown Colony.

The territory is situated near the north-east promontory of the Chinese province of Shantung. Its area being about 285 square miles, it is about 58 square miles larger than the Isle of Man and almost exactly twice the size of the Isle of Wight. In addition to the territory itself there is a much wider adjoining area estimated at 1,500 square miles, over which the Weihaiwei Convention of 1898 gave Great Britain certain rights mainly of a military nature. These rights, however, Great Britain has never made any attempt to exercise. Within the territory and adjacent to the town of Port Edward there is a "city"—so-called merely because it has the honour of possessing a wall, though it is but a village—which has always remained under Chinese jurisdiction, though in certain eventualities referred to in the Convention the British Government is entitled to assume control.

The population of the territory is now estimated at over 180,000, which is about 30,000 less than that of Tasmania. In 1921, when the last census was taken, the population was ascertained to be 154,177, but a considerable increase has taken place since that time,

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owing partly to the development of trade and partly to the influx of refugees from neighbouring parts of the province, which for several years has suffered greatly from civil war, banditry, and other evil conditions.

The non-Chinese population (exclusive of the naval and military services) consists of about 34 British residents, 3 Belgians, 3 Italians, 24 Koreans, and one national of each of the following countries :— Spain, Hungary, France, and Canada, making a total of 68. The non-British Europeans are members of the local Roman Catholic Mission and Convent. The European population is very largely increased during the summer months, owing to the influx of visitors from Shanghai and other Chinese ports.

Port Edward (the name given by the British Government to the port of Ma-t'ou) has grown under British administration from a hamlet of little more than a thousand inhabitants to a prosperous town which, together with two or three villages which it has absorbed, contains a population of nearly 20,000. It is the port of the territory and the seat of Government.

The language spoken by the Chinese of Weihaiwei is northern "Mandarin" (now known as the National language) with slight dialectical peculiarities common to eastern Shantung.

The currency consists of silver dollars (Mexican, Chinese, and British) and Chinese subsidiary silver and copper coinage. The notes of the British banks operating in China are current, and are supplemented by local notes of small denomination (one-dollar and *tiao* notes representing 1,000 copper cash) issued by Chinese trading firms under the supervision and control of the Local Chambers of Commerce. In their dealings with one another the people use the ordinary Chinese weights and measures, but the merchants have acquired a knowledge of British standards as well, and make use of them in their dealings with the local Government and with foreign traders.

The following Report deals with the calendar year 1929, except in respect of finance. The financial year begins on 1st April, and for statistical and other purposes it is convenient to give in the Annual Report facts and figures relating to the whole of that year. Section II, therefore, which concerns finance only, deals with the financial year ending on 31st March, 1930.

I.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Although civil war, banditry, and conditions generally disturbed made the year 1929 one of hardship for the people of Shantung, the territory of Weihaiwei continued to live up to its reputation as an area of peace and prosperity. There was one regrettable case of the kidnapping of an eight-year-old boy for ransom. This is a form of crime which has existed in China from time immemorial and always sweeps like an epidemic through the land in periods of political

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disorder. It almost invariably goes unpunished on account of the extreme unwillingness of the intimidated victims and their relations to give information to those authorities who might be able and willing to effect the arrest of the malefactors. In the case referred to, which was the first recorded in the British annals of Weihaiwei, the criminals did not get off scot-free, for one of them was arrested by the British authorities and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment with hard labour, and his associates found the Anglo-Chinese borderland so hazardous a field of operations that they appear to have fled to the regions west of Chefoo. The kidnapped child, who had been carried off to a bandit's mountain-stronghold in Chinese territory, was recovered on payment by his father of a ransom which after much bargaining through intermediaries was reduced from thirteen to three thousand dollars.

An embarrassing but unavoidable circumstance, which makes the maintenance of peace and good order in the Leased Territory a matter of increasing difficulty, is that it is not always possible for the Weihaiwei Government to differentiate between genuine refugees, who enter the territory in large numbers in order to escape from intolerable conditions across the border, and the numerous professional robbers, deserters from Chinese military camps, and ruined peasants who in desperation have taken to banditry and kidnapping as a means of livelihood. Police investigations proved that all the persons concerned in the kidnapping case referred to above were natives of the western part of the province, where economic conditions are particularly bad.

In contrast with the people of the rest of the province, the small peasant-proprietors of Weihaiwei have risen, under British administration, from a condition of extreme poverty to one of comparative affluence. Many of them are actually in a position, for the first time, to engage hired labour to assist them in the working of their farms ; and unfortunately for the territory this hired labour is recruited from among the thousands of homeless wanderers who have been rendered destitute by the pitiful social and political conditions still prevailing in many parts of Shantung. On entering the Leased Territory, these people find themselves in a region which to them is not only a haven of refuge but a place of wealth and prosperity. They are glad to find employment at wages which would be rejected with scorn by the poorest Weihaiwei natives ; and the farmers rejoice to find that they can obtain labourers at a cost far below the minimum rates acceptable by the people of the territory. The position would seem to be satisfactory from the points of view of both employers and employed, were it not for the unfortunate fact that the homeless refugees who enter the territory are not all in search of honest work. They include men who have become actual or potential criminals, either from natural depravity or because they have been demoralised by misery and starvation and the breakdown of orderly government ; and the consequence is

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that the increase in serious crime which has engaged the attention of the British authorities during the past few years, and has necessitated a considerable increase in the police force, is directly attributable to the influx of undesirable characters from the Chinese side of the border. Many of the people who accept employment as farm labourers in Weihaiwei may once have been honest and harmless peasants, tilling their own little farms ; hard circumstances have turned them into thieves or bandits or have made them the more or less willing tools of the roving robber gangs with which the adjacent Chinese territory is infested ; and they are soon in a position to supply their confederates with information which makes it an easy matter for the latter to devise plans of armed robbery and kidnapping. When all the existing circumstances are taken into consideration, the fact that serious crime in the territory, though gradually increasing, is still comparatively rare, is as surprising as it is gratifying ; and the local Government is entitled to congratulate itself both on the effectiveness of the measures taken by it to protect the territory, with its forty-mile land frontier, against the incursions of armed criminals, and on the good work cheerfully and on the whole successfully carried out by its small force of less than 200 Chinese constables supervised by only two British inspectors.*

During the months of March and April a state of civil war existed in eastern Shantung, and the greater part of the fighting took place near the city of Mou-p'ing, between Weihaiwei and Chefoo. During this critical period, a platoon of the Royal Scots was stationed at Lu-tao-k'ou, on the western boundary of the territory, and was of great service in maintaining the inviolability of Weihaiwei and in helping the police to disarm the deserters and fugitives, from both the contending Chinese armies, who entered the territory in considerable numbers. The inhabitants of the villages on the British side of the western border welcomed the arrival of British troops in that locality with enthusiasm ; and having grown accustomed to regard the soldiers as their protectors against manifold calamities (as indeed they were), they were loud in their lamentations when conditions became sufficiently normal to allow of the withdrawal of the troops to their barracks in Port Edward.

Later in the year the people of the border regions were again in a state of alarm owing to the recrudescence of banditry and highway robbery on a large scale in the immediate vicinity of the Leased Territory. As it was thought possible that attacks might be made on villages on the British side, the commanding officer of H.M.S. SUFFOLK (Captain G. S. Arbuthnot, D.S.O., R.N.) kindly allowed a detachment of Royal Marines from his ship to patrol the border for several days during September. They were accompanied by the Commissioner in person. The object of the march was to demonstrate to those bad characters who were constantly threatening the

* The third inspector is also custodian of the Gaol and his duties restrict his field of activity to the Island of Liu-kung.

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tranquillity of the territory that the Government was able, when necessity arose, to concentrate armed forces at any point that might be menaced, and to reassure the Weihaiwei villagers as to the willingness and ability of His Majesty's Government to afford them protection.

This was the first occasion on which the territory had been patrolled by a force landed from one of His Majesty's ships. The march was thoroughly successful in every way, and it is scarcely necessary to say that the marines were received by the villagers with the utmost cordiality. A similar route march was carried out shortly afterwards by a detachment of 100 men of the Royal Scots, with equally satisfactory results.

While this Report is being prepared, negotiations are proceeding between the Chinese and British Governments for the retrocession of the territory of Weihaiwei to China, in accordance with the promise given by His Majesty's Government at the Washington Conference in 1922. The absence of a central Government recognized by the Powers and able to conclude international agreements on behalf of a united China made it impossible for this promise to be carried out at an earlier date. In 1929, however, Great Britain's recognition of the Government at Nanking as the central government of China was immediately followed by the resumption of the negotiations which would have been brought to a successful issue in 1924 but for the *coup d'état* in Peking which resulted in the downfall of the Government of that day. It is hoped and expected that the present negotiations will lead to the desired retrocession of Weihaiwei before the end of 1930.

II.—FINANCE.*

The revenue collected during the financial year 1st April, 1929, to 31st March, 1930, amounted to $433,774, irrespective of special surtaxes on shipping dues for harbour improvements (which produced $20,548) and on the land-tax for educational purposes (which produced $2,206), making a gross total of $456,528 collected by Government. As the estimated net revenue was only $355,215, it will be seen that the actual revenue exceeded the estimate by $78,569. The actual revenue for the preceding year (1928–9) was $324,636. Although that was the highest ever collected in Weihaiwei up to that time, the revenue for the year under review has broken that record to the extent of no less than $109,138. It may be observed that the revenue of the territory has practically doubled in four years, and that by far the greater part of the increase has taken place in the last two.

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* For the purpose of this section only, this Report deals with the financial year 1929–30, which closed on 31st March, 1930.

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The following table gives the totals of net revenue and expenditure for the six years ending with 1929–30, and shows the excess of revenue over expenditure for each of those years :—

	1924–5.	1925–6.	1926–7.	1927–8.	1928–9.	1929–30.
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Revenue ...	189,554	219,142	240,763	256,494	324,636	433,774
Expenditure ...	179,944	187,432	214,331	247,014	313,228	316,830
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	9,610	31,710	26,432	9,480	11,408	116,944

The increase in revenue during the past few years may be traced mainly to the commercial expansion of Port Edward and its trade and shipping, and also to a revised scale of shipping dues introduced in 1928, and the adoption of improved methods of supervising and collecting taxes, and the removal of the embargo on motor traffic. The steady growth in expenditure up to 1928–29 is partly accounted for by the necessary increases in the personnel and salaries of the clerical staff and the police force, but mainly to much-needed expenditure on public works and the development of roads and the telephone-system. Much of this expenditure would have been undertaken in former years but for financial stringency. The policy of financing public works by means of loans has never been adopted in Weihaiwei, which accounts not only for the backwardness of the territory in certain obvious respects but also for the fact that there is no public debt.

The following figures show the difference between the estimated and the actual revenue for 1929–30 under the four main heads. It will be observed that the increases took place under all these heads. The large increase under the first head is accounted for by a steady expansion in the receipts derived from shipping dues.

	Estimated Revenue for 1929–30.	*Actual Revenue for* 1929–30.	*Excess of Actual over Estimated Revenue.*
	$	$	$
Licences and Internal Revenue	305,465	366,231	60,766
Fees of Court, etc.	27,150	37,961	10,811
Rents of Government Property, etc.	10,000	12,928	2,928
Interest and Miscellaneous ...	12,600	16,654	4,054
Totals	$355,215	433,774	78,559

The figures in the above table are exclusive of those relating to the above-mentioned surtax on shipping dues. This is a voluntary surtax levied for the purpose of accumulating a fund to be used for harbour improvements. The surtax consists of 10 per cent. on ordinary shipping dues. As already stated, the sum collected

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during the financial year under review was $20,548.00, and the total amount now standing to the credit of the fund is $78,533.00. The selection of the purposes on which this fund or any part of it may be expended rests with the Port Edward Chamber of Commerce in consultation with the local Government, whose joint recommendations are subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In view of the expansion which has taken place in recent years, it seems not impossible that the revenue for 1930–31 (assuming the maintenance of the British administration throughout that period) may amount to $450,000 or more. But it is to be remembered that owing to the chaotic state of a great part of the province of Shantung, the constant interferences with trade arising from banditry, military operations, and political uncertainty, the absence of a settled and stable government in the adjoining Chinese territory, the ever-present possibility of a renewal of civil war, and other causes which can hardly be taken into consideration when the annual estimates are being prepared, no attempt to forecast the actual revenue of the territory can be regarded as much better than guesswork. Meanwhile, it is satisfactory to note that the public revenue of Weihaiwei has increased from $4,077 in 1900–01 to $433,774 in 1929–30.

For nearly twenty years of the British administration it was necessary to supplement the local revenue with an Imperial grant-in-aid. The total amount spent by His Majesty's Government in such grants reached the equivalent of £144,500. The first year in respect of which no grant was found to be necessary was 1916–17. Further grants were required in the three following years, but since 1921–22 the Territory has been wholly self-supporting, and in 1928 the sum of $61,311, representing the unexpended portion of an Imperial grant which improved financial conditions had rendered unnecessary, was refunded to His Majesty's Treasury.

III.—PRODUCTION.

(A) Agriculture.

Agriculture, which is the principal industry in the territory, is the occupation of more than 90 per cent. of the resident families, most of the remainder of the population being fishermen, traders, and shopkeepers. The great majority of the cultivators are peasant-proprietors, and have tilled their farms for generations. Records preserved in family-temples and in clan-graveyards show that many of the inhabitants of the 360 villages of the territory have been landholders in this district for eighteen or more generations.

The principal crops are wheat, millet, barley, maize, kaoliang (tall millet), sweet potatoes, beans, buckwheat, and groundnuts. The last-named crop is very extensively grown for export, and largely accounts for the considerable increase in the wealth and prosperity of the farmers and traders of Weihaiwei in recent years.

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Somewhat serious droughts took place in the early summers of 1927, 1928, and 1929, which nearly ruined the wheat harvest in all three years. Otherwise the farmers have had little to complain of.

(B) Forestry.

The following notes on this subject are quoted from the Annual Report for 1927, to which there is nothing to add : " Hampered by limited resources the Government has not been able to carry out any comprehensive scheme of forestation, and except in the vicinity of Port Edward and on the island, in a few mountain ravines, in the immediate neighbourhood of villages and in graveyards, and along Government high roads, the territory must be pronounced to be comparatively treeless. The appearance of the island, originally bleak and bare, has been transformed out of all recognition by the Government fir plantations which have done very well in spite of the ravages of the pine-moth (*gastropacha pini*). Similar plantations in other parts of the territory would necessitate the employment of a large staff of forest guards, to prevent the people from cutting down the young trees for firewood. The largest trees to be found in the territory are more or less isolated specimens of the sophora Japonica, catalpa, and maidenhair (*gingko biloba* or *Salisburia adiantifolia*). The last-named beautiful and interesting tree is found, as usual in both China and Japan, in proximity to sequestered Buddhist or Taoist temples. Several specimens of the gingko and sophora are regarded locally as sacred trees and are hung with the thank-offerings (usually small scraps of red cloth) of persons whose prayers are believed to have been answered by the tree-spirit.

" Many trees and shrubs have been introduced into Weihaiwei by the British Government and have done well. Among the latter are the wegelia rosea, lagerstroemia indica, silver elder, sea buckthorn, spiroea callosa, forsythia suspensa, and hibiscus syriacus.

" Fruit would grow well if the people could be induced to take a greater interest than they do in its cultivation. Apricots, pears and grapes are indigenous, but the two former are of comparatively poor quality. The British Government has introduced several kinds of Western fruit-trees—apple, pear, cherry, plum, peach, nectarine, and fig. Most of them are capable of thriving in the climate and soil of Weihaiwei, but fruit-culture has not yet engaged the serious attention of more than a few individuals."

(C) Sericulture.

In Weihaiwei the silk industry is an adjunct to agriculture. Most of the small farmers have " common " grazing or other rights over tracts of hill-land. Large parts of these tracts have been covered

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with scrub-oak (*quercus serrata*), on the leaves of which the wild silk-worm is fed. Probably 100,000 acres of hill-land in the territory have been devoted to this useful purpose. Lack of the capital necessary for the establishment of filatures has hitherto prevented the farmers from taking more than a very modest share in the actual manufacture of silk, hence most of the cocoons still find their way to Chefoo.

(D) Fisheries.

Next to agriculture, the sea-fishing industry is the most important in Weihaiwei. In 1929 the registered fishing-junks belonging to the territory numbered 277. The local fleet is strengthened in spring by arrivals from other ports, mainly Manchuria. There are 1,139 of these junks on the temporary register in 1929. There are also 34 local motor-trawlers, and 9 from other ports. Fishing is carried out both by net and by hook. The catches comprise prawns, halibut, cod, sole, plaice, and several kinds of small fish relished only by Chinese. Large quantities of fish are shipped in ice to Shanghai and Tientsin, and are also carried by mules into the interior.

(E) Mining.

No mining operations have been undertaken in Weihaiwei since the abandonment of the gold-mine to which reference was made in the Report for 1927.

(F) Salt.

Considerable quantities of salt—far in excess of local requirements—are produced by evaporation in the lagoons on the coast of the territory. The export is mainly to Hong Kong, Korea, and Japan, but the quantities exported vary greatly from year to year owing to the great fluctuations in market prices. The number of salt-pans is 357, covering a total area of nearly 1,000 acres. Four years after the territory was leased to Great Britain the acreage under salt-pans was less than thirty. The revenue derived by Government from the salt-pans is very small. Apart from the shipping dues on exports it amounted to only $1,077 in 1929, an increase of $54 as compared with 1928. The revenue is obtained from registration and production fees.

(G) Lace-making.

This continues to be a thriving minor industry in the territory. It originated in the local Roman Catholic Convent, which has trained and is still training large numbers of village girls both in the art of designing and in practical bobbin-work; but the industry is now largely in the hands of Chinese, who in many cases employ women who were trained in the Convent.

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(H) Bricks and Tiles.

Owing to the rapid growth of Port Edward and the activity of building operations, the local brick and tile industry is at present unusually prosperous.

(I) Miscellaneous.

Various small industries have sprung into existence in recent years mainly to meet the requirements of foreign visitors. The local silversmiths produce good work for which there is a steady demand ; Weihaiwei pewter-ware is establishing a good reputation for itself ; and model junks made by local craftsmen attract much admiration and find a ready sale.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

Merchant steamers to the number of 1,139, with a total net tonnage of 1,307,015 tons, called at Port Edward during 1929, as compared with 1,017 steamers, with a tonnage of 1,140,140, in 1928, and 858 steamers, with a tonnage of 1,029,478, in 1927. Of the steamers, 505 were British (as compared with 456 in 1928), 435 Japanese (as compared with 391), and 175 Chinese (as compared with 150). Steamers of other nationalities were American (9), Dutch (8), Danish (4), and German, Italian, and Norwegian (1 each).

Inward junks numbered 1,633 and outward 1,032, as compared with 1,752 and 646 in 1928.

The fact that in 1902 (the first year for which accurate records are available) only 146 steamers with a tonnage of 151,809 entered the port, shows that the trade and shipping of Weihaiwei have increased to a remarkable extent during the British occupation. Shipping dues (that is, harbour dues on steamers and junks and on outward and inward cargoes) have risen from $1,067 in 1903 to $144,426 in 1928–29 and $210,558 in 1929–30, and for some years past these dues have constituted by far the largest single item in the revenue of the territory.

The total volume of trade in 1929 amounted to 1,874,691 units valued at $26,128,618, as compared with 1,525,899 units valued at $19,744,543 in 1928, and 1,691,843 units valued at $17,650,100 in 1927.

The total imports were valued at $17,190,993, as compared with $13,955,100 and $11,182,989 in 1928 and 1927 respectively ; and exports at $8,937,625 as compared with $5,789,442 and $6,467,112 in the two previous years. The excess value of imports over exports was therefore $8,253,368 as compared with $8,165,658 in 1928 and $4,715,877 in 1927.

Though the above figures show a considerable expansion in trade, a large number of the Weihaiwei merchants suffered severe losses in 1929 owing to fluctuations in the groundnut and timber businesses and also to unfortunate speculations in the Dairen grain-market.

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This accounts for an unusually large number of bankruptcies during 1929. It must be admitted that the losses referred to were to a great extent avoidable, and that most of the merchants concerned have only themselves to thank for the disasters which befell them. There were other contributory causes, however, for which the merchants of Weihaiwei were not in any way responsible, such as the fluctuations in exchange and the sudden shrinkage in groundnut exports resulting from the new import duty on groundnuts imposed in the United States of America.

The movement of merchandise is shown in the following summary :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Net Imports.*	*Net Exports.*	*Increase or Decrease on 1928.*
	$	$	$	$	$
Beancakes, Beans, and Oil	242,025	7,423	234,602	—	— 9,577
Cigarettes and Tobacco ...	907,424	150,360	757,064	—	+ 468,000
Coal, Coke, and Charcoal...	206,828	3,648	203,180	—	+ 28,614
Cotton, Raw and Yarn ...	2,122,740	73,080	2,049,660	—	+ 171,650
Eggs	8,052	122,507	—	114,455	+ 28,391
Fish, Salt and Dried ...	124,666	206,472	—	81,806	+ 169,961*
Flour	864,472	82,856	781,616	—	+ 180,834
Groundnuts and Kernels...	886,830	3,654,612	—	2,767,782	— 23,744
Groundnut Oil	291,695	343,957	—	52,262	— 30,384
Gunny Bags	111,945	3,995	107,950	—	+ 9,435
Iron and Iron Sheets ...	401,190	23,220	377,970	—	+ 319,560
Kerosene Oil	148,850	2,820	146,030	—	+ 15,076
Maize and Millet	563,176	54,471	508,705	—	+ 44,932
Paper	171,246	49,264	121,982	—	+ 1,804
Piece Goods and Silk ...	3,196,240	583,060	2,613,180	—	— 633,080
Provisions	370,850	8,130	362,720	—	+ 14,560
Rice	757,152	79,216	677,936	—	+ 5,134
Sugar and Candies ...	1,740,873	850,944	889,929	—	+ 515,779
Timber	855,704	31,097	824,607	—	+ 700,707
Wine, Chinese	511,830	6,735	505,095	—	+ 185,410
Wine, Foreign	140,740	32,520	108,220		

* In 1928 the excess value of imported over exported fish amounted to $88,155.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(A) Roads.

Port Edward is connected by cart-roads, which have recently been made available for motor-traffic, with the following towns and ports in the Chinese hinterland : Chefoo, 60 miles ; Mou-p'ing, 40 ; Wên-têng, 30 ; Jung-ch'êng (the most easterly district-city in Shantung) 40 ; Li-tao, 45 ; and Shih-tao, 60.

The following are the distances by sea from Port Edward to the nearest Chinese ports with which it has commercial intercourse : Chefoo, 40 miles ; Taku, 243 ; Dairen, 110 ; Shanghai, 475 ; and Hong Kong, 1,186.

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The land-frontier of the territory is about 40 miles long, and the point on the boundary which is nearest to Port Edward is one mile beyond the frontier police-post of Lutaok'ou, 13 miles, on the main road to Chefoo. The distance to the eastern boundary by road is nearly thirty miles.

The removal of the embargo on motor-traffic was heartily welcomed by the people, who gladly avail themselves of the bus services which now enable them to travel, speedily and comfortably, from end to end of the territory, and beyond it. As far as motor-transport is concerned, the inhabitants of Weihaiwei have shown nothing of the obstinate conservatism generally supposed to be characteristic of the Chinese people. The *shan-tzŭ* or mule-litter—till recently one of the favourite vehicles for women and children and elderly persons—is now beginning to be looked upon as a picturesque relic of a primitive era, and its gradual disappearance is probably regretted by European visitors (who, however, very rarely made use of it for purposes other than photographic) more than by the local Chinese.

Reference was made in the 1928 Report to the new motor-road which was being constructed across the northern peninsular portion of the territory to link up the two existing coast roads. The new road was completed and opened to traffic on 24th June, 1929, when the Commissioner in the presence of a large assembly of Chinese and foreigners unveiled a stone tablet erected by Government to commemorate the public spirit shown by the several hundred small farmers who, in response to a personal appeal made to them by him, had willingly surrendered, without compensation, all such portions of their land as were needed for the road. In the course of his speech on this occasion the Commissioner made the following remarks :—

> " We foreigners are apt to find fault with the Chinese for their lack of public spirit. It has been said—and I fear not unjustly—that while the Chinese are quite ready as a rule to sacrifice their individual interests in the wider interests of their family or clan, they are lacking in zeal for the common good of village, town or district. Even patriotism, as we understand it in the West, has only recently begun to make its appearance, sometimes in more or less dubious shapes, I fear, among the Chinese people. Whether this Western criticism of the Chinese character be justifiable or not, we can no longer say that the sacrifice of immediate personal interests on behalf of the general good of the community is never practised by the Chinese of Weihaiwei. Here we have a clear proof to the contrary."

(B) Telephones and Telegraphs.

Until 1928, there was no telephonic communication with any part of the territory outside Port Edward and the island. This defect, besides being an inconvenience to the general public, greatly hampered the Government in the administration of the territory,

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especially in connection with the work of the police, and is now being gradually rectified. The telephone system has already been extended to Lutaok'ou (the boundary police-post on the west) and to Wên-ch'üan-t'ang and Liu-lin-tzŭ in the heart of the territory.

For ordinary telegraphic communication with the outside world, Weihaiwei is dependent on a Chinese-owned land-line to Chefoo. The British-owned sea-cable to that port, though still in existence and serviceable, has not been in use since 1923.

(C) Steamship Communications.

Steamship communication with Shanghai, Tientsin, and Chefoo is regular and frequent, services of passenger and cargo steamers being maintained by the British firms of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company. There is also fairly frequent but irregular steamship communication with other ports, such as Hong Kong, Tsingtao, and Dairen. The port is also occasionally visited by ocean-going steamers plying between China and various American and European ports.

(D) Lighthouses.

There are two lighthouses in the Weihaiwei territory. One of these is situated at Flagstaff Point on the mainland, within the harbour. It was first lighted in 1898. In 1901 it was bought by the British Government from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, and reconstructed. It has a white light, visible 12 miles, and a red light, visible 8 miles. Its latitude is 37° 29′ 41″, longitude 122° 8′ 10″.

The second lighthouse is situated on the mainland at the eastern entrance to the harbour (Chao-pei-tsui), latitude 37° 27′ 45″, longitude 122° 14′ 55″. Its light is visible 15 miles. This lighthouse was also bought by the British Government in 1901.

The cost of maintenance and the wages of the staff (exclusively Chinese) are paid by the Government of Weihaiwei.

(E) Posts.

There are agencies of the Hong Kong Post Office at Port Edward and on the island, and the stamps used are Hong Kong stamps surcharged "China." Foreign mails are carried by the shipping firm of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire in accordance with the terms of their mail contract with the Government of the Leased Territory. Communication with Europe is by the Suez and Siberian routes. Letters from London to Weihaiwei by the sea route take on an average about 40 days in transit, those despatched by the Siberian route about 16 to 22 days. The Chinese Postal Administration has a branch in the walled city of Weihaiwei which usefully supplements the postal services conducted through the British Office.

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

(A) Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction.

The judicial system and procedure of Weihaiwei are laid down in the Weihaiwei Order in Council, 1901. Civil and criminal jurisdiction is vested in the High Court, the Judge of which is appointed under His Majesty's Sign Manual. As the Judge is non-resident, and rarely visits Weihaiwei, the powers of a Judge of the High Court are vested in the Commissioner. The Magistrates, of whom there are two, are also empowered, under the Order in Council, to exercise the delegated powers of the High Court in the majority of cases, both civil and criminal. In civil suits between Chinese, the Courts follow Chinese law and custom so far as they are not repugnant to British conceptions of morality and justice.

The number of civil suits commenced during 1929 was 415, as compared with 279 in 1928, 281 in 1927, and 239 in 1926. Of the 415 suits commenced during the year under review, 381 had received at least one hearing by 31st December.

Criminal and police cases numbered 955, as compared with 646 in 1928. The total number of persons convicted was 1,899, of whom 220 were imprisoned and 1,609 fined. Cases of assault and other offences against the person numbered 198. There were 3 inquest cases, 108 gambling cases, 175 breaches of the Opium Ordinance, 99 breaches of Arms and Ammunition Ordinance, Liquor Licences Ordinance, Export and Import Prohibition Ordinance, Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, Stamp Tax Ordinance and other Ordinances, and 198 breaches of Common Lodging House, Harbour, Motor Traffic, Sampan, Sanitary, Shipping Dues, Vehicle and other Regulations. 110 cases of more serious crime occurred, namely :—

2 Accessory after the fact of burglary.
1 Embezzlement.
1 Accessory after the fact of kidnapping.
2 Escaping from lawful custody.
2 Accessory before and after the fact of armed robbery.
1 Accessory before the fact of forgery.
2 Forgery.
1 Harbouring escaped prisoners.
1 Arson.
1 Kidnapping.
1 Attempted burglary.
55 Larceny.
1 Attempted housebreaking.
1 Libel.
2 Attempted larceny.
1 Manslaughter.
11 Burglary.

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2 Murder.
1 Causing bodily injuries maliciously.
7 Robbery with arms.
1 Conspiracy to defraud.
1 Shooting with intent to evade arrest.
2 Demanding money with menaces.
10 Possession or receiving of stolen property.

There were 64 suicides, as compared with 81 in 1928.

Fourteen criminal cases came before the High Court and were dealt with by the Judge or by the Commissioner in his judicial capacity, namely: murder (1), robbery with violence (2), forgery (2), accessory after the fact of armed robbery, escaping from lawful custody, arson, harbouring escaped prisoners, shooting with intent to evade arrest, receiving stolen property, burglary, demanding money with menaces, malicious wounding (1 each).

Serious crime was formerly very rare in this territory, but has increased to a considerable extent in recent years, owing to the influx of undesirable characters from the Chinese side of the border. Banditry, civil war, misgovernment, and the social and political restlessness which revolution has brought in its train are answerable for the chaos and lawlessness which prevail in this part of China and which inevitably have an adverse effect on conditions within the Leased Territory.

(B) Legislation.

Legislative authority is vested in the Commissioner, but Ordinances enacted by him are subject to disallowance by the King acting on the advice of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The Ordinances enacted in 1929 were three in number, namely, the Banishment and the Conditional Pardons (Amendment) Ordinance, the Banishment and the Conditional Pardons (Second Amendment) Ordinance, and the Gambling Ordinance No. 7 of 1906 (Amendment) Ordinance.

(C) Police.

The Police Force at the end of 1929 consisted of three European Inspectors, 24 Chinese non-commissioned officers and 167 men. One of the Inspectors (who is also Superintendent of the Gaol) and 21 Chinese police (including 10 prison warders) are stationed on the Island of Liukung, and an Inspector and 76 Chinese at Port Edward. The remainder of the force is distributed among 15 posts in the interior and on the boundary, under the supervision of the Territory Inspector.

(D) Prisons.

The Weihaiwei Prison is situated on the Island of Liukung and has accommodation for 70 male and 20 female prisoners. At Port Edward there is also a small prison with seven cells for short-sentence prisoners only.

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VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No new public works of importance were undertaken during 1929. The scanty funds available for such purposes were mainly expended on the improvement of existing roads and bridges, the rounding-off of corners which since the introduction of motor-traffic had been proved to be dangerous, and the extension of the drainage system of Port Edward, to keep pace with the steady growth of the town.

There are in existence approved schemes for harbour improvement, including the building of a breakwater and the construction of a small pier and sea-wall to meet the needs of the southern section of Port Edward, which is being rapidly developed. Funds for these projects are being accumulated by means of a surtax on shipping dues. At the end of the financial year 1929–30 this fund amounted to $78,533.00, and it is hoped that during 1930 it will be found possible to expend at least a portion of this sum on one of the approved schemes of development.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

(A) Public Health.

It has long been recognized that Weihaiwei is one of the healthiest places on the coast of China. It is for this reason that it has become a noted holiday-resort for European residents in other parts of the country ; and it was also in recognition of its excellent climatic and hygienic conditions that Weihaiwei was chosen by the military authorities as the site of a Convalescent Camp for the officers and men of the Shanghai Defence Force. It has been used as such from 1927, the year in which that Force was sent out to China.

During 1929 the health of the foreign community, both residents and visitors, was excellent. In spite of the occurrence of epidemic diseases in the neighbouring ports, no case of infectious illness was seen among those who spent the summer months in Weihaiwei. An isolated case of *encephalitis lethargica* made a good recovery. There were four births and six deaths among Europeans, two of the latter occurring among the British troops and one in the fleet.

The health of the Chinese community was also good, and epidemics were rare and mild.

Owing to the prevalence of smallpox in neighbouring ports, the annual vaccination campaign was carried out with rather more vigour than usual. At the hospitals 1,916 vaccinations took place, as compared with 1,759 in 1928, while the public vaccinators touring the territory recorded 11,293 cases as compared with 6,909. The result was that no case of smallpox was observed among the Chinese during the year under review, though in the early days of the British occupation of Weihaiwei the disease was exceedingly prevalent and attended by a high mortality.

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With regard to the locally-prevalent disease of kala-azar, the Senior Medical Officer (Dr. L. McGolrick) reports as follows :—

> " The clinic established in 1924 for the treatment of kala-azar continues to be one of the most satisfactory features in the Medical Department. In the Annual Report for 1925 it is stated that 438 injections were given, and this year the number has risen to 2,186. Sixty-two new cases were diagnosed, of which 51 returned for regular treatment. The efficacy of the antimony tartrate treatment is fully appreciated by the patients, and cases come to the hospital at a much earlier stage than formerly, with increasing benefit to themselves.
>
> " These injections are now also given at the branch hospital at Wên-ch'üan-t'ang, for the benefit of those to whom the bi-weekly journey to Port Edward is a too formidable undertaking."

On the subject of leprosy, of which there are about 70 cases in the territory, the Senior Medical Officer has submitted the following observations :—

> " The treatment of leprosy with Alepol begun in 1928 was continued, visits being paid twice weekly to the different treatment centres. Seventeen lepers were under treatment. It is a matter for regret that the patients do not come more regularly. Often ten days to a fortnight intervenes between injections. Several factors contribute to this. First, there is the peculiar apathy of the lepers themselves, which may indeed be a result of the disease ; and it is difficult to make them realize that treatment must be prolonged and progress slow. Then, again, most of them live some distance from the treatment centres on the main roads, and crippled and maimed from the disease as many of them are, it is only on the finest days that they will face the long walk that is necessary. Finally, the injections produce at times moderately severe reactions, and the patients are not fit to walk to their treatment centre when the next injection day comes round. It is hoped to build a leper hospital in the near future, where these cases can be accommodated and treated with greater facility."

For further observations on the subject of leprosy in Weihaiwei, reference should be made to the Annual Report for 1928, page 21.

Rabies is unfortunately by no means rare in China, and in spite of all the precautions taken in Weihaiwei cases of human hydrophobia occasionally occur. Towards the end of 1929 a rabid dog attacked and bit seven persons. All were treated with anti-rabic vaccine, but one of the patients (a police constable) who had been bitten on the head, subsequently died.

Quarantine restrictions were imposed for short periods on arrivals from Hong Kong during a smallpox epidemic in that Colony, and

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from Shanghai, which in August was declared infected with cholera. Only one (imported) case of cholera was seen in Weihaiwei.

64 suicides were reported during the year, as compared with 81 in 1928. Arsenic and opium were the agents employed in most of these cases.

The Island of Liukung, which contains the naval establishment, naval sick quarters, recreation grounds, canteen, clubs, etc., was officially reported to be "in a splendid sanitary condition."

(B) Hospital.

Besides the Royal Naval Sick Quarters, there are three Government hospitals in the territory: one (the largest) at Port Edward, under the direct superintendence of the Senior Medical Officer; one on the Island of Liukung, where there is a Western-trained Chinese doctor under the supervision of the resident surgeon-commander, who holds the additional post of Medical Officer for the Island under the civil authorities; and a third at Wên-ch'üan-t'ang, in the heart of the territory 13 miles from Port Edward, which is also in charge of a Western-trained Chinese doctor under European supervision.

The total number of out-patients attending the three civil hospitals was 21,675, which exceeded the 1928 figures by 1,364. In-patients numbered 277.

(C) Meteorological.

The total rainfall for the year was very low, being only 16.16 inches. The yearly average is 27 inches. Rain fell on 54 days. For the first six months of the calendar year the total fall recorded was only 2.07 inches. This occasioned considerable anxiety not only with regard to the wheat crop (which for the third year in succession was a very poor one, solely owing to drought) but also on account of a threatened failure of the water-supply. Fortunately the fear of a water-famine was removed by the comparatively heavy rainfall which took place in June.

The highest temperature recorded in 1929 was 102° F. on 3rd June. This has been exceeded only once since observations began to be taken, namely in the preceding year, when a temperature of 105° F. was recorded. It is noteworthy that the three years 1927, 1928, and 1929 have had the highest temperatures in the history of the territory. The lowest temperature in 1929 was 12° F., on 1st and 2nd February. The lowest temperature recorded in Weihaiwei was 1° F. in 1913.

The highest barometer reading was 30·846 on 12th March, the lowest 29·974 in June, the monthly average varying from 1·22 in March to 0·3 in May.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Until recent years, financial stringency made it impossible for the Government to do much for the promotion of education, which therefore had to be left to private enterprise. The Government's

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efforts in this direction were practically limited to the maintenance of one boys' school in Port Edward. All the larger and many of the smaller villages in the territory support old-style village schools of their own, and the various missionary bodies (Roman Catholic, Anglican, and " Brethren ") have all done good educational work which till 1928 received no practical recognition from Government. In that year small grants-in-aid were for the first time awarded to the Mission schools and two others, and in 1929 a grant of $1,000 was allocated in the Estimates to a limited number of the village schools.

The Government also contributes a substantial amount towards the maintenance of the leading school in the territory—the Weihai Middle School—of which an account was given in the 1928 Report. An admirable site for the new buildings of this institution was provided by Government in that year, and in the Estimates for 1929–30 a sum of $5,000 was granted towards the building fund. The new buildings were formally opened by the Commissioner on 14th August, 1929. Since 1927, a portion of the maintenance expenses of this school has been defrayed by a small surtax on the land-tax ; but it is mainly dependent on Government grants ($3,000 has been provided for this purpose in the Estimates for 1930–31) and on subscriptions from local merchants and other residents.

In spite of the combined efforts of the Government and all those interested in education, it is probable that nearly ninety per cent. of the inhabitants of the territory are illiterate. According to the census returns for 1921, the persons who could read or write at that time were declared to be only 14,000 out of a population of 150,000 ; and of that small number only 227 were females. The number of literates is still estimated at less than 20,000.

The following table gives the number of pupils attending the principal modern schools during 1929 :—

	Day Pupils.	*Boarders.*	*Total.*
Weihai Middle School (Boys) ...	121	42	163
Island School (Boys and Girls) ...	54	—	54
Huang Jen Government School (Boys).	190	—	190
Shu Te School for Girls	50	—	50
Chiu Hua School for small boys and girls,	42	—	42
Anglican School (Boys)	32	34	66
" Brethren " School	46	75	121
Roman Catholic School (Boys) ...	176	36	212
Roman Catholic School (Girls) ...	82	—	82
Roman Catholic Kindergarten ...	37	—	37
Roman Catholic Boys' School at village of Yen T'an.	26	—	26
	856	187	1,043

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X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

No cadastral survey of the territory has ever been undertaken, but the 2-inch to a mile survey carried out by the Royal Engineers in 1898–9 has been of great practical use for administrative purposes.

Much of the land of the territory is hill-land unfit for cultivation ; but a great deal of this hill-land, over which the villagers have common rights, is utilized for growing the scrub-oak which the Shantung peasants use for feeding the silk-worm.

Land fit for cultivation is nearly all privately-owned. Agricultural land is difficult to buy, not only on account of the density of the agricultural population, which in itself would tend to keep land-values up to a high level, but also because cultivated land very rarely comes into the open market. Every Chinese agricultural landowner in Weihaiwei—and this applies with equal force to the neighbouring parts of the province of Shantung and to many other parts of China—is by custom debarred from selling his land to strangers. If he is compelled by circumstances to part with his land he is obliged to offer it first to his nearest relatives of the same surname. Only if they all refuse to buy (at a price which is considered reasonable by the elders of his clan) he may be regarded as free to sell to an outsider. But it is very rarely, except in times of famine or political upheaval, that the seller is met with refusals by all the appropriate members of his clan in their order of precedence or seniority.

Building sites in Port Edward and its vicinity have rapidly increased in value during the past few years, partly owing to the commercial expansion of the port and partly on account of the influx of well-to-do refugees from the turbulent regions adjoining the Leased Territory.

XI.—LABOUR.

As stated in the Report for 1928, there are no local labour unions or organizations in Weihaiwei other than the ordinary old-fashioned Chinese trade-guilds, the relations of which with the Government have always been excellent.

The vast majority of the inhabitants of Weihaiwei are farmers and fishermen ; and as nearly all the farmers are peasant-proprietors, who till the lands handed down to them by their ancestors through many generations, disputes between agricultural labourers and their employers are unknown. In the only urban district in the territory —the Port Edward area—the relations between employers and employed are harmonious, though the steady increase in the cost of living necessitates fairly frequent readjustments of wages.

For further observations on labour conditions, and on the entry of women into the local labour market, reference should be made to the Report for 1927.

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XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

During 1929 the changes in the administrative staff were few in number. Mr. H. I. Prideaux-Brune, Secretary to Government and Senior District Officer, was succeeded on 10th September by Mr. A. Archer, O.B.E., and Captain C. E. Thurston, M.C., Junior District Officer and Magistrate, was succeeded on 1st December by Major J. M. Colchester-Wemyss, O.B.E., late of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment).

For the greater part of the year the British garrison of the territory consisted of one company of the second battalion of the Royal Scots. This company left Weihaiwei on 6th November and was relieved by a company of the second battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

In June the China squadron of the British fleet (under Vice-Admiral Sir A. K. Waistell, K.C.B.) paid its annual visit to Weihaiwei and remained in the port throughout the summer. The only foreign man-of-war which visited Weihaiwei was the U.S.S. PITTSBURGH, flagship of the American commander-in-chief, Admiral Mark Bristol, which arrived on 16th August. A pleasant interchange of courtesies between the American and British commanders-in-chief took place on the eve of the former's retirement from his command.

As the retrocession of the territory is expected to take place before the end of 1930, this may possibly be the last Annual Report to be issued by the British Administration. The two main sources of gratification to those British officials who have had the pleasure of serving in Weihaiwei will be, firstly, the memory of the happy and cordial relations that have existed between the British community (official and unofficial) and the Chinese population; and, secondly, the knowledge that during those long years of strife and chaos which brought unutterable misery to the people of Shantung and other parts of China, the people of Weihaiwei—together with thousands of refugees from the adjacent Chinese districts—enjoyed uninterrupted tranquillity and prosperity under the protection of the British flag.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Commissioner.

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PREFACE.

Geographical Description.

1. The territories comprising the Uganda Protectorate lie between the Belgian Congo, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Kenya, and Tanganyika Territory. The Protectorate extends from about parallel 1° South latitude to the northern limits of the navigable waters of the Albert Nile (Bahr el Jebel) at Nimule. On the east its boundary extends from Mount Zulia on the Sudan border along the Turkana Escarpment to the crater of Mount Elgon (14,140 feet), and runs thence along the Malawa and the Sio rivers into the north-eastern waters of Lake Victoria; whilst the outstanding features on the western side are the Nile-Congo watershed, Lake Albert, the River Semliki, the Ruwenzori Range (16,794 feet), and Lake Edward.

Historical Survey.

2. The traditions of the Bantu peoples of the Protectorate go back to some period in the sixteenth century, when the whole of the country between Lake Victoria and the Nile, and between

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the Lake and the Ruchuru river, is said to have been united under the rule of immigrants of a Hamitic stock coming from the north-east. This empire, if it ever existed, soon broke up, but most of the races affected developed feudal organizations of a sort above the average of African indigenous civilizations, and of these by far the most advanced were the Baganda. No outside influence seems to have touched the country, which was protected for long by the savage Masai in the east and the then unnavigable Nile sudd in the north, until the penetration of Arab traders to the southern end of Lake Victoria in the early part of the nineteenth century. Even the slave-trade had hardly affected it when the first Europeans, Speke and Grant, reached it in 1862 from the south in their search for the sources of the Nile. Speke spent nearly a year at the court of the celebrated Mutesa (who had then just succeeded to the throne of Buganda) before he was allowed to see the Ripon Falls and to return home with Grant throughout the Sudan. On their way they met Sir Samuel and Lady Baker, who were also bent on the discovery of the Nile sources, but from the opposite direction. They had to be content with discovering the other great Nile lake, which they named the " Albert Nyanza," and with the penetration of Bunyoro. In 1875 H. M. Stanley arrived in Buganda and, impressed by the intelligence of the natives and their zeal for improvement, launched his famous appeal for missionaries. The first Englishman to respond reached Uganda in 1877, followed soon after by a party of French Catholics. Both denominations, as well as proselytizing Arab moslems, had gained many adherents by the time of Mutesa's death and the accession of his son, Mwanga, in 1884. Bishop Hannington, the first Bishop of Uganda, attempting to enter Buganda from the east, in defiance of native superstition, was thereupon murdered by Mwanga's orders, and there followed a systematic persecution of all the new religions, and reprisals, which involved the country in " religious wars " for the next seven years.

3. For a time it was uncertain whether Uganda would come under the British or the German sphere of influence in Africa, but in 1886 Germany renounced her claims, and Captain Lugard (now the Right Honourable Lord Lugard, G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.), on behalf of the Imperial British East Africa Company, obtained Mwanga's signature in 1890 to a treaty giving the British the right to intervention in the internal affairs of Buganda. Captain Lugard successfully maintained his position in the country for two years, throughout which he was faced with situation after situation of the greatest difficulty, owing to the mutual hostility of the various religious factions, not without encouragement from the missions, and the vacillations of Mwanga towards whichever side had temporary advantage. In 1892 the Company found itself unable to bear the expense of the country's administration any

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longer, and the British Government sent out a Commissioner to report on the advisability of establishing a Protectorate. The Commissioner, Sir Gerald Portal, hoisted the British flag in the fort at Kampala in March, 1893. Ill-health and the strain caused by fractional jealousies, which led him to remove his headquarters from Kampala to Entebbe (where the seat of administration has been practically ever since), forced him to leave the country after a stay of only two and a half months. A British Protectorate was established on 27th August, 1894, after which comparative quiet ensued for three years, until Mwanga instigated a rebellion (which was defeated) and fled the country, and his infant son, Daudi Chwa, the present ruler, was proclaimed King, or "Kabaka," under the guidance of three Regents. Soon afterwards mutiny arose among a discontented section of the Sudanese forces which had been recruited by Captain Lugard for the Company's service from the remains of Emin Pasha's troops; Mwanga and Kabarega, the King of Bunyoro who had for many years taken every opportunity to harass the British, joined them, but fortunately the Baganda remained loyal, and the outbreak was quelled after a year's fighting, during which several British officers and others lost their lives. Mwanga and Kabarega were captured in Lango and deported. Since the early part of 1899 the country has been peaceful. Arrangements which defined the functions of the Native Governments of Buganda, Toro, and Ankole, and their relations with the suzerain Power, were effected by Sir H. H. Johnston, as His Majesty's Special Commissioner, between the years 1900 and 1902. At this time, and until 1903, the boundaries of the Uganda Protectorate embraced a large area of what is now Kenya Colony, and the Sudan, as well as part of the dominions of Kabarega which has since been included in the Belgian Congo.

4. The year 1901 saw the completion of the Uganda railway from Mombasa to Lake Victoria, without which the subsequent development of the Protectorate would never have been possible. In the years following, up to the war, the work of extending British administration over the more primitive peoples of the Protectorate went ahead steadily, and was made easier, in the Eastern Province, by the enterprise and co-operation of Buganda chiefs and agents. Apart from the murder of the British Sub-Commissioner in Ankole in 1905, which rendered necessary the suspension of the Ankole agreement for a time, these years were without any serious incident, and the population have continued to acquiesce in European rule. The growing of cotton, which has become the staple industry of the country, was started in 1903; and the Busoga and Port Bell railways, as well as a great part of the country's present fine system of motor roads, were constructed to provide cheap transport for this product. The scourge of sleeping-sickness (trypanosomiasis), which fell upon the islands and shores of Lake Victoria from 1902 onwards, caused the loss of hundreds of

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thousands of lives and necessitated the removal of the population from the areas affected. The islands were re-populated in 1920 and the succeeding years, and, as a result of the precautions taken, the disease has not recurred on the Lake. Sleeping-sickness, which is a matter of concern to all the Powers which have colonies in Africa, was the subject of a Commission, appointed by the League of Nations, which had its headquarters at Entebbe during the years 1925-1927 and whose researches and recommendations have been of the greatest value in the co-ordination of the international campaign against tsetse-borne disease.

5. During the Great War, Uganda contributed in no small measure to the success of the operations in East Africa. Five Battalions of the 4th King's African Rifles were raised in the Protectorate, while during the advance into German territory in 1916, and in the subsequent stages of the campaign, the native population of Uganda was largely drawn upon to maintain the personnel of the Carrier Corps, and the great majority of the European non-official population and as many officials as could be spared from an under-staffed service were enrolled in the local forces. In all, some 191,600 of the people of Uganda served in the war, of whom 11,000 were combatants and 117,819 were employed in the essential transport services of the various Columns.

6. After the Armistice, and the succeeding economic difficulties, the country has continued to make rapid progress. But 1919 was a year of famine, rinderpest and influenza; and fluctuations of the Indian exchange necessitated a change of currency in 1920, with consequent dislocation of trade. In 1921, Executive and Legislative Councils were established, the latter containing nominated unofficial members among a majority of official members. The Geological Department was created, and its researches were rewarded by the discovery of tin in Ankole and oil in the Lake Albert basin. In 1925 a department of the Protectorate Government became directly responsible for education, and another for Game control. The Eldoret branch of the Kenya and Uganda Railway was extended into Uganda, and the line was completed so as to join the Busoga Railway in 1928.

The work of a Parliamentary Commission, under the chairmanship of the Right Hon. W. Ormsby Gore, which in 1924 made a thorough inquiry in the East African Dependencies into the possibilities of accelerating their economic development, was followed up in 1928 by that of a further Commission under the Right Hon. Sir E. Hilton Young which was appointed to consider the questions involved in bringing about a form of closer union between the territories.

Administrative Divisions.

7. Since 1926, when the Rudolf Province was formally transferred to Kenya Colony, the Protectorate has been divided into four provinces—Buganda, Eastern, Western, and Northern. Until a

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survey of the whole of the country has been completed, only provisional statistics of area can be furnished, but for all practical purposes the Protectorate may be taken to cover an area of approximately 94,204 square miles, of which 13,616 square miles are water

8. The population on the 31st December, 1929, was estimated to be 3,410,857, viz., 1,995 Europeans, 12,539 Asiatics, and 3,396,323 native inhabitants.

Language.

9. For 14 years Luganda, the language of Baganda, who constitute roughly one-sixth of the indigenous population, was recognized as the " official " local language, but measures have now been adopted to introduce Kiswahili, the general lingua franca of Eastern Africa, as the dominant language for educational and administrative purposes throughout a considerable area of the Protectorate. Each tribe, however, continues to use locally its own language. Thus, in the north of the Protectorate and in parts of the Eastern Province Nilotic and Hamitic languages are spoken; and elsewhere languages which can be classed neither as Bantu nor Nilotic, but which are an intermixture of both, are current.

Currency.

10. Prior to 1920, rupee currency was in circulation in Uganda, but florin currency was then substituted, and in its turn, in 1922, displaced by the shilling currency which is now in use. The florin currency and notes are gradually being withdrawn, but are still legal tender. The following coins and notes of the shilling currency are in circulation :—

Coin :—

Sh. 1, which is legal tender for an unlimited amount.

50 cents. (= 6d.), which is legal tender for any amount up to 20s.

10 cents. = $1\frac{1}{5}$d. }
5 cents. = $\frac{3}{5}$d. } which are legal tender up to 1s.
1 cent. = $\frac{3}{2\cdot5}$d. }

Notes :—

Shs. 10,000; 1,000; 200; 100; 20; 10; 5.

Banks.

11. Banking facilities are afforded by the National Bank of India, Limited (branches at Entebbe, Kampala, and Jinja), the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited (branches at Kampala and Jinja), and by Barclays Bank (Dominions, Colonial, and Overseas) (branches at Kampala and Jinja).

Weights and Measures.

12. The weights and measures in common use in the Protectorate are the Imperial weights and measures.

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I.—GENERAL.

13. The year 1929 was a prosperous one. The cotton crop was the largest ever recorded for the Protectorate, and amounted to 204,057 bales, with a local value of £3,312,668. A caution is necessary, however, against regarding this as the immediate precursor of future progress, since cotton is notoriously a fickle crop, and, so long as the Protectorate must depend upon cotton for its prosperity, so long must it be prepared for the trough of the wave to follow the peak. In point of fact, plant disease, unseasonable weather, and a sharp fall in prices had already ensured, by the end of 1929, that the coming year would be a very lean one indeed.

14. The difficulties which confronted the cotton industry on account of the excessive number of ginneries in the country and the unpopularity among the native growers of the steps taken by the ginners to reduce, by means of combines, the consequent cut-throat competition led to the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry early in the year 1929. This resulted in the collection of much useful information regarding the industry, its costs and organization, and in recommendations the most important of which were concerned with the reorganization of the ginning side of the industry by means of co-operative associations. The policy of the Government in regard to the recommendations of the Commission had not been settled before the end of the year.

15. The railway line from the Nile to Kampala was completed by the end of the year, but the erection of the bridge over the Nile at Jinja will take some time longer; it is hoped, however, that the first train from Mombasa to Kampala may run early in 1931. This line, which will be of great benefit to Buganda, has been constructed by the labour of Baganda only (see under "Labour," paragraph 131). A further extension from Kampala into the Belgian Congo, entering it north of Lake Edward, is under consideration. The Tororo-Soroti branch, which will take the greater part of the Eastern Province cotton traffic, was finished and opened in October. Aircraft have become so common a sight in Uganda as to excite, in some places, little more attention than motor cars. It is expected that by the beginning of 1931 the weekly service of Imperial Airways, Limited, will have brought Uganda within seven days of London.

16. The problem of providing water supplies for many parts of the country where no surface water exists, except during the rains, or where the only sources are infested by tsetse-fly, was taken in hand, and progress was also made with the construction of a supply for Kampala; the laying of pipes and the building of the pumping station at Port Bell, on Lake Victoria, was practically completed. Sewerage undertakings for the towns of Kampala and Jinja will naturally follow; and experts were engaged, during the year, on

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the plans for these, as well as on the important problem of town-planning. This, if ever, was the time to take stock of the development of Kampala, which is probably destined to become an important centre, and to lay down a definite programme of extension on modern lines. Advantage was taken of the presence in the country of a town-planning expert from India to investigate the possibilities of establishing local government in the larger municipalities, and the report of a Committee on this subject was awaited early in 1930.

17. The problem of malaria has also received attention, and Uganda was included in the scope of a visit by Lieutenant-Colonel S. P. James to East Africa, which resulted in much valuable advice. The serious outbreak of plague in Kampala and the neighbourhood which occurred in July caused a temporary crisis in local trade circles owing to the necessity of isolating the town and other infected areas for a time, but it was overcome before the end of August. The desirability of obtaining outside advice with regard to the routine measures to be taken against this endemic menace is appreciated, and the services of an expert adviser have been secured. The position of the Human Trypanosomiasis Institute at Entebbe as a permanent centre of research for East Africa was still undecided. Rinderpest outbreaks continued to be a menace, but were successfully kept under control.

18. At the height of the plague outbreak in Buganda a disturbance occurred at a small village near Bombo owing to the opposition of a few members of a fanatical sect known as the Malakites to anti-plague precautions. The affair was dealt with by the local representatives of the Native Government, who acted with considerable tact and gallantry. Five of the rioters were killed, and a European Sanitary Inspector was seriously injured. Two of the leaders of the sect were subsequently deported to other parts of the Protectorate. There has been no recrudescence of the trouble.

19. Weather conditions in the Kigezi district of the Western Province during the early part of the year were unfavourable to native food-crops. These conditions existed also in the neighbouring area of Ruanda, in Belgian territory, and resulted in some temporary movement of the population across the border in search of food. Eventually relief in the form of an issue of food had to be afforded to these immigrants, at a final cost to the Protectorate of approximately £800. Elsewhere, food has been sufficient.

20. The relations between the Protectorate authorities and those of the Belgian Congo and Mandated Territory remain excellent, and a large measure of co-operation has been secured in the working out of plans for new means of communication between the territories. The new roads in the south-west corner of the Protectorate destined to connect the tin-mines of Ankole with the

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new port being built on the Kagera river, 97 miles from its mouth, are planned with a view to linking up with the road system of Ruanda-Urundi. They are included in an extensive programme of road construction which is being carried out in the Western Province (see paragraph 98).

21. The Report* of the Hilton-Young Commission on Closer Union of the East African Dependencies was published early in the year; and in April and May Sir Samuel Wilson, Permanent Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, visited East Africa in an endeavour to ascertain to what extent closer union on the lines advocated by the Commission would be acceptable to local opinion in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika. Sir Samuel Wilson was accompanied during part of his tour by the Right Honourable Srinavasa Sastri, whose mission was to elucidate the Indian point of view. Meanwhile, the machinery of the Conference of East African Governors has worked satisfactorily to adjust matters on which the territories did not see eye-to-eye, such as the protective items in the Customs Tariff, in regard to which the public opinion of Uganda was embodied in the report of a local Committee which considered the subject at the end of the year.

22. The death of Sir Frederick J. Jackson, K.C.M.G., C.B., removed a figure which loomed large in the early history of British influence in Uganda. Mr. Jackson (as he then was) first visited Uganda in 1890, as the representative of the Imperial British East Africa Company. He was appointed Acting Commissioner in 1895, and became Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Uganda in 1911, a post which he held until his retirement in 1917.

II.—FINANCE.

General Position.

23. The Surplus Balance on the 31st December, 1929, amounted to £1,315,997. The Estimates for the year provided for an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to £109,875 on account of necessary public works to be met from surplus balances, but the result of the year's working was actually a surplus of £72,744. The revenue was in excess of the estimate to the extent of £256,428, as a result of increased receipts from Customs and Cotton Tax consequent on an unexpectedly large cotton crop, while expenditure exceeded the estimate by £70,810.

24. The subjoined table gives the final results for the last five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Surplus Balance.*
	£	£	£
1925	1,479,284	1,108,396	1,133,845
1926	1,389,641	1,295,612	1,227,874
1927	1,292,306	1,430,976	1,089,204
1928	1,519,237	1,368,188	1,240,253
1929	1,682,918	1,607,175	1,315,997

* Cmd. 3234.

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Revenue.

25. The collections for the year amounted to £1,682,918, an increase of approximately 10.77 per cent. over the revenue for 1928. While most sources of revenue exceeded the 1928 level, the main increases were from Customs and Cotton Tax, owing to the unusually good cotton crop. An increase in the cotton crop affects favourably many other sources of revenue.

Expenditure.

26. The expenditure (exclusive of loan) was estimated at £1,536,365, but it actually amounted to £1,607,175. The excess was chiefly due to an extended programme of works carried out by the Public Works Department, an increase in the Pensions and Gratuities vote, a payment towards the cost of the 1928 famine in the Eastern and Northern Provinces, and the purchase of large quantities of serum to control outbreaks of rinderpest.

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Loans.

27. The following table gives the position in regard to Loans to the end of 1929.

Designation and amount of Loan.	*Amount received.*	*Sinking Fund repaid and interest thereon.*	*Balance outstanding on 31–12–29.*	*Remarks.*
£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Busoga Railway Construction 170,000	170,000	38,598 10 6	131,401 9 6	Interest at 3½ per cent. Sinking Fund at the rate of 1 per cent.
Kampala-Port Bell Railway and improvements in communications in the Eastern Province. 125,000	125,000	33,144 7 1	91,855 12 11	Interest at 3½ per cent. Sinking Fund at the rate of 1½ per cent.
Imperial Loans Ordinance 1915 (Railway and Road Development). 329,000	329,000	13,759 6 3	315,240 13 9	Loan received in instalments on various dates. Repayment by means of annuities of interest and Sinking Fund.
Development Loan for general services 550,000	550,000	—	550,000 0 0	To be repaid to the Imperial Treasury by the Uganda Government raising a loan. A Sinking Fund of 1 per cent. per annum has been formed and invested by the Crown Agents.
Total ... ... £	1,174,000	85,502 3 10	1,088,497 16 2	

Note.—£368,851 of the Public Debt was expended on Railway and Marine Services, the interest and sinking fund charges on which are refunded to the Uganda Government by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration.

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III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

COTTON.

28. The value of ginned cotton and cotton-seed exported is shown under " Trade and Economics " (paragraph 73). The actual " carry over " at the end of the year is not known, but ginning returns show a figure in excess of the export figure and it may safely be stated that the actual production in 1929 exceeded 200,000 bales of 400 lb. each for the first time in the history of the industry.

29. Cotton planting was delayed owing to the dry weather during the greater part of June, and the area planted by the end of that month was well below the average, particularly in the Eastern Province. Conditions were normal in July, and planting proceeded under favourable conditions in all districts, except Lango, where there was a shortage of rain. The autumn rains continued right through the end of the year with a slight break in November, and, as a result of these conditions, planting continued later than usual. This compensated to some extent for the shortage of early-sown cotton.

30. The continuance of the rains, whilst favouring late plantings, acted adversely on that part of the crop which was already established, and the appearance of disease on the earlier sowings in the Eastern Province made the outlook less promising.

31. Abnormally heavy rains during December retarded the ripening of the crop and caused considerable vegetative growth. In addition, the dull weather accompanied by low temperatures encouraged the spread of " blackarm " disease, which was already very prevalent in the districts of Lango, Teso, and Bugwere in the Eastern Province.

32. It was estimated that the total area of cotton planted by natives in 1929 was 683,495 acres, compared with 699,107 acres in 1928. Although the falling off in the area planted was negligible, for reasons stated above there was every indication at the end of the year that the production from the 1929 planting would be considerably below that of the previous year.

33. The buying combines referred to at paragraph 37 in the Report for 1928 extended their activities to parts of the Eastern and Northern Provinces, but, owing to the fact that neighbouring districts remained as " free " areas with open competition and consequent higher prices, the native producers became more strongly antagonistic to the combines.

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34. In February a Commission of Enquiry into the Cotton Industry, under the Chairmanship of Sir William Morris Carter, a late Chief Justice of the Protectorate, was appointed. This enquiry and its results have already been mentioned in paragraph 14.

35. The tax in 1929 on cotton lint exported from the Protectorate was 6 cents (¾) per pound and realised £230,988, as compared with £164,483 in the previous year, when the tax was the same. The tax for 1930 was fixed on 16th December at 5 cents per pound, based on the closing price of June "futures" in Liverpool on that date.

36. The number of ginneries licensed to gin and bale during the year was 153, as compared with 164 in 1928. No fresh sites for ginneries were granted, but there was a tendency for European ginners to dispose of their interests, and several groups of ginneries passed into the hands of Indian firms. Ginnery holdings at the end of the year were as follows :—

	No. of Ginneries.
Indian	146
European	41
Japanese	6
Total ...	193

37. Local transactions in baled cotton were again numerous, and particulars of registered contracts representing 165,271 bales were recorded. Of the 204,057 bales exported in 1929 from Uganda, 44,726 went to the United Kingdom, 118,529 to India, and 35,139 to Japan.

COFFEE.

38. The acreages under coffee at the end of 1929 were estimated to be as shown below, and for the purpose of comparison the figures for 1928 are also given :—

	C. arabica.		*C. robusta.*	
	1929	1928	1929	1928
	Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
Non-natives	13,837	12,951	5,759	5,457
Natives	5,417	2,782	10,971	6,503
	19,254	15,733	16,730	11,960

39. An increasing interest has been shown in the cultivation of *C. robusta* by non-natives, particularly in the more humid areas of the Buganda Province, whilst the area under *C. arabica* cultivated by non-natives shows a steady increase in the Toro District.

40. The coffee crop in 1929 was above the average, and good yields were obtained in most districts. This position was, however, largely discounted by the fall in prices towards the end of the year, when the bulk of the crop was being marketed.

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41. The native coffee industry showed a steady expansion, and the free distribution of *C. robusta* plants continued throughout the year in the Buganda Province. The development of this industry proceeded satisfactorily in the Ankole District of the Western Province and the Bugishu District of the Eastern Province, where the cultivation of *C. arabica* is becoming increasingly popular with the native cultivators.

42. The exports of coffee from the Protectorate during the year amounted to 41,192 cwt., valued at £177,142, as compared with 40,355 cwt., valued at £164,187, in 1928.

Rubber.

43. The planted acreage of Para rubber remains practically unchanged and little interest has been taken in this crop owing to the depressed condition of the market. Tapping has continued on several estates and small quantities have been exported. The figures for 1929 were 823,100 pounds, valued at £28,818, as compared with 1,131,200 pounds, valued at £54,978, in 1928.

Miscellaneous Crops.

44. *Sugar.*—In addition to the factory established at Lugazi in 1925, work was commenced on a factory in the Busoga District, both being Indian enterprises. The bulk of the output is absorbed locally, but 4,276 cwt., valued at £7,071, were exported to neighbouring territories.

45. *Tobacco.*—Experimental work in connection with this crop has been continued in the Bunyoro District, and the comparatively small crop produced in that area by native growers was purchased by the British American Tobacco Company for use in their factory at Jinja. It is realized that only good types of well-prepared leaf can be expected to find a ready export market, and for this reason the development of tobacco-growing by natives is being proceeded with cautiously. Non-natives continue to show an interest in this crop. Exports during the year amounted to 61,967 lb., valued at £3,040.

46. *Maize.*—Large quantities of improved varieties of maize seed were distributed by the Department of Agriculture during the year, and there has been a considerable increase in the acreage planted, particularly in the vicinity of the larger towns. Mills for the production of maize flour have been erected in several centres in the Buganda and Eastern Provinces, and it is hoped that in the near future Uganda will at least be able to supply its own requirements in this direction.

47. *Tea.*—The acreage under tea was increased from 297 in 1928 to 321 in 1929. The cultivation of this crop is confined mainly to

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European plantations. Improved machinery has been installed on one of the earlier-planted estates, and the prepared product finds a ready sale in Uganda and the neighbouring territories.

48. *Sisal.*—Preparations are in hand for the cultivation by Indian enterprise of this crop in Bunyoro.

49. The following are the figures of export for—

Sim-Sim Seed, 1,338 tons valued at £24,890.
Sim-Sim Oil, 1,678 Imperial gallons valued at £464.
Groundnuts, 316 tons valued at £5,419.
Chillies, 6,174 cwts. valued at £26,133.

PLOUGHING.

50. A scheme was put into operation in the Eastern Province whereby numerous blocks of 100 acres each were cleared and stumped with the object of demonstrating to those natives who have not already realized it the advantage to be gained by the use of ploughs and the proper rotation of crops.

51. The following comparative table shows the principal commodities of domestic produce exported during the last five years :—

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	Unit of Quantity.	Quantity.					Value.				
		1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
							£	£	£	£	£
Maize	Cwt.	—	—	—	—	9,925	—	—	—	—	3,882
Other Grain and Flour	Cwt.	185	38	16	473	1,018	137	43	12	249	574
Feeding stuffs for animals.	Ton	—	—	—	136	74	—	—	—	847	495
Chillies	Cwt.	2,258	1,245	1,237	4,437	6,175	2,935	1,714	4,359	25,848	26,134
Cocoa, raw	Cwt.	115	10	64	2	4	311	18	160	6	12
Coffee—Hulled... ...	Cwt.	29,884	33,211	43,514	40,348	34,631	140,019	147,885	170,408	164,188	155,297
Coffee—Parchment ...	Cwt.	(Classification sub-divided from				5,998	—	—	—	—	20,552
Coffee—Unhulled ...	Cwt.	1929 inclusive.)				570	—	—	—	—	1,286
Sugar, refined in bulk ...	Cwt.	4,053	1,255	10,162	2,749	4,276	7,441	1,599	16,371	4,435	7,071
Tea	Cwt.	—	—	2	1	12	—	—	14	8	133
Cigarettes and Tobacco	Lb.	—	—	—	8,559	62,081	—	—	—	330	3,066
Other articles of Food and Drink.	Value	—	—	—	—	—	632	507	760	537	810
Timber	Cu. ft.	497	1,672	4,637	1,913	3,533	75	314	916	609	1,161
Tin Ore...	Ton	—	—	—	—	324	—	—	—	—	63,900
Other Ore	Ton	—	—	118	252	5	—	—	20,876	50,673	271
Cotton, raw	Cental of 100 lb.	784,153	723,438	526,910	553,944	816,228	4,685,992	3,051,791	1,690,837	2,475,328	3,312,668
Silk, raw	Ton	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	100
Seeds, Cotton	Ton	21,927	35,360	29,502	45,507	67,525	122,791	194,887	170,303	323,109	433,999
Seeds, Sesame	Ton	214	194	718	116	1,339	4,522	4,130	13,733	2,163	24,891
Groundnuts	Ton	41	380	2	150	316	820	6,025	40	2,636	5,413
Oils, sesame	I. Gall.	—	—	88	1,536	1,678	—	—	26	422	464
Hides, dry and dry salted	Cwt.	7,028	7,639	29,619	58,364	35,099	29,844	27,358	99,542	257,287	152,543
Skins, Sheep and Goats'	No.	55,350	88,750	78,411	163,042	258,045	3,964	5,174	4,090	8,038	12,901
Rubber, Plantation, raw	Cental of 100 lb.	8,061	13,561	14,497	11,311	8,234	68,705	135,619	82,160	54,978	28,818
Ivory, Elephant ...	Cwt.	307	202	500	330	405	28,535	18,288	34,575	21,758	24,758
Rhinoceros Horns ...	Cwt.	1	4	1	3	2	86	346	453	722	640
Other unmanufactured articles.	Value	—	—	—	—	—	355	169	163	596	1,587
Miscellaneous manufactured articles.	Value	—	—	—	—	—	51	178	342	472	1,293
Animals not for food ...	No.	—	—	46	—	2	—	—	160	—	2
Parcel Post (local transfers).	Value	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	37

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Forestry.

52. The report of Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Forest Adviser, was considered and accepted during the year. This lays down a Forest Policy providing for the formation of Forest Reserves, when considered necessary for climatic or economic reasons, all over the Protectorate and for the demarcation, protection, survey, stock-enumeration, and scientific management of these. It also emphasizes the advisory side of the functions of the Forest Department and recommends the management of all forest areas not of national importance by local native administrations under the supervision of the Department. The report also pointed out the advisability of creating forests in certain areas for averting the progress of desiccation and for drying up swamps.

53. The question of the re-organization of the Department necessary to carry out the policy was fully dealt with and a small increase in staff has been arranged for to arrive and be absorbed gradually, one extra post, that of a Forester, being filled during the year.

54. Some preliminary work towards the selection of Forest Reserves and preparation of working plans was done, 40,000 acres being examined and externally surveyed, 2,000 acres being enumerated, and 15 miles of boundary demarcated.

55. Plantations were increased by 367 acres, of which 120 acres of Eucalypts were established in swamps as part of the Anti-Malarial Campaign. The results are very promising. A swamp in which ordinary departmental planting was started in 1926 is now completely dry except for an unimpeded stream running through the middle.

56. Experimental planting of *Podocarpus gracilior*, *Entandrophragma utilis* (Mahogany), *Khaya anthotheca* (Mahogany), and *Tectona grandis* (Teak) was done over a total area of 34.5 acres.

57. Regeneration is an aspect of the Forest Department's work which is not neglected, though no satisfactory method of procuring natural regeneration in indigenous forests under exploitation has so far been found in Uganda. Conditions favourable to the germination and growth of the valuable timber species are also favourable to worthless species and weeds which grow far more rapidly and swamp the desirable regeneration work. This necessitates weeding, and it is only where natives are willing and able to plant " catch-crops " between the rows of young trees—and such localities are rare—that the process can be conducted without undue expense.

58. At the end of the year, concessions covering 154 square miles only were being worked, those over 160 square miles having been cancelled on account of inefficient working. Endeavours were made to ensure more efficient working of the Mvule (*Chlorophora excelsa*) Savannah areas.

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In addition the Public Works Department worked over approximately 300 acres of the Minziro Forest which is reserved for them, cutting Podocarpus and small quantities of hardwoods.

59. The total out-turn of produce from Government Forests was 384,348 cubic feet of timber, 50,564 poles, and 6,844,076 stacked cubic feet of fuel. The last item shows an increase of two and a-half million stacked cubic feet due to the extensions of the railway.

60. Revenue rose from £13,135 in the previous year to £19,190 in 1929, while the value of the produce removed from the forests reached the figure of £25,024. The expenditure on the Forest Department amounted to £11,966.

Fisheries.

61. A fairly large fishing industry, almost entirely in the hands of natives, exists on all great lakes of the Protectorate and on parts of the Nile, and supplies fresh fish to all classes of the community living near, and dried fish to the native population in all districts. The principal edible fish of Lake Victoria is the "Engege" (*Tilapia* spp.); the most promising fish of Lake Albert is the "Nile Perch" (*Lates Niloticus*). These fisheries have recently been the subject of an intensive survey, and, in the light of the results, measures are being taken to prevent the over-fishing of Protectorate waters.

62. Investigations into the practicability of stocking the streams of the Ruwenzori Range with trout have continued, and there seems to be every likelihood that the project will be as successful in Uganda as it has proved in Kenya.

Mining.

63. Prospecting during the year has been marked by steady progress and an application of more deliberate methods. The extension of prospecting into the Buganda and Eastern and Northern Provinces did not lead to discoveries of any immediate economic importance, and interest continues to be centred for the most part in the tin-bearing areas of the Western Province. Further very promising tin-bearing veins have been exposed within a few miles of the Mwirasandu Mine, and in other parts of the Ankole District the more scientific methods of prospecting employed have justified more substantial hopes than have previously been admissible of the discovery of commercially exploitable alluvial tin. Underground development with a view to proving the extent of the copper-bearing lodes on the Ruwenzori Range was continued.

64. At the end of the year, 15 exclusive prospecting licences were current, covering an area of 13,548 square miles.

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65. Some 321 tons of tin ore, of a value of £44,517, have been exported during the year, of which 297 tons were the produce of the Mwirasandu Mine. The low price of tin has led to a restriction of production, and a more favourable world market will probably react on the rate of export.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

General.

66. Kenya and Uganda form a single unit for purposes of Customs and there is in consequence complete freedom of trade between the territories. A detailed examination of the external trade of Uganda alone is therefore a matter of considerable difficulty, more particularly as virtually the whole of the import and export trade of both Dependencies passes through Mombasa, the principal port in Kenya. As a result, the combined trade figures represent generally the landed value at Mombasa in the case of imports and the "f.o.b. Mombasa" value in the case of exports, these being the declared values for purposes of Customs.

67. As, however, the division of Customs revenue is based on the consumption of dutiable articles in each territory, every endeavour is made to determine the imports into Uganda with the greatest possible accuracy, exports being differentiated as regards the country of origin in accordance with the declaration of shippers. Succeeding paragraphs under the headings of "Imports" and "Exports" deal briefly with the information so obtained.

68. Trading operations throughout the year continued to be comparatively stable, though the outbreak of plague had the effect of restricting purchases by the native population for some time and influenced adversely what might otherwise have been an unusually good trading year.

69. Owing to partial failure of the 1929-30 cotton crop, a considerable fall in the value of exports from Uganda during 1930 must be anticipated, and some contraction in the consequent import trade is almost inevitable.

70. With the exception of the enactment of an Ordinance authorizing the admission free of duty of goods imported by His Excellency the Governor for his use, the Customs Management and Tariff Laws remained unaltered during the year under review. Committees were however appointed in Kenya and Uganda respectively to review the Common Tariff, with particular reference to the protected articles, and reported to their several Governments in 1929.

Imports.

71. The total value of trade imports into Uganda for consumption in the Protectorate was £2,318,177, as compared with £1,988,104 in 1928, an increase in value of £330,073. For the

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reasons given above, these figures are quoted in terms of " landed value Mombasa," the cost of handling and freight through Kenya to Uganda not being included.

Cotton Tissues and Manufactures continue to form the main item of import trade, but show a decrease in value as compared with the previous year. Details are as follows :—

	1928	1929
	£	£
Cotton Piece Goods	580,888	524,403
Cotton Blankets	73,795	65,397
Yarns and Manufactures	21,616	15,907
	676,299	605,707

Tobacco.—The value of imports of cigars, cigarettes, and tobacco increased from £90,967 to £97,827.

Other Main Items.—A general expansion of imports in 1929 followed an improvement in the yield from the cotton crop, among the more important items being jute bagging, motor vehicles, parts and accessories, pedal cycles, tyres and tubes, corrugated iron sheets, and metal manufactures.

72. Improved climatic conditions in the Protectorate resulted in a diminution in the importation of local produce from Kenya, the value of such produce transferred to Uganda during 1929 amounting to £189,938, as compared with £236,255 in 1928. The principal decreases appear under the headings of maize and maize meal.

Exports.

73. The total value of the domestic exports of Uganda during 1929 in terms of " f.o.b. value Mombasa " was £4,274,758, as compared with £3,395,270 in 1928, an increase of £879,488, or 26 per cent.

Cotton is by far the most important item in the list of exports from Uganda, and represents, in conjunction with cotton-seed, 87 per cent. of the total domestic exports of the Protectorate during the year under review. Shipments in 1929 exceeded those in any previous year and totalled 816,228 centals, valued at £3,312,668, as compared with 553,944 centals of a value of £2,475,328 exported during the previous year. The declared value per cental of 100 lb. was £4 1s. 2d. as against £4 9s. 4d. in 1928 and £3 4s. 2d. in 1927.

Cotton Seed.—67,525 tons, valued at £423,999, were exported in 1929, as compared with 45,507 tons of a value of £323,109 shipped during 1928. This considerable increase was largely due to additional transport facilities provided by railway extensions in the Protectorate.

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Tin Ore.—Exports increased from 252 tons in 1928 to 324 tons in the year under review.

Other Produce.—Increased shipment of chillies, tobacco, and sesame seed (simsim) are recorded, but the export of hides and rubber showed considerable contraction.

74. For more detailed information in regard to imports, sources of supply, countries of destination, etc., reference is invited to the Annual Trade Report of Kenya and Uganda.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

75. The railway and steamer services in the Protectorate are under the control and management of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration.

Eastern Province.—The Kenya and Uganda Railways main line crosses the border between Kenya Colony and the Protectorate a few miles to the east of Tororo and proceeds *via* Tororo in a westerly direction to Mbulamuti, where it joins the Busoga Railway. The Busoga Railway, commencing at Jinja, links up Lake Victoria with the navigable waters of the East Nile. Jinja, on Lake Victoria, and Namasagali, the headquarters of the East Nile Steamer Service, have direct rail connection with Mombasa.

A further extension from Tororo to Soroti, approximately 100 miles in length, was completed and opened for traffic on 1st October, 1929.

Buganda Province.—A short line (6 miles) connects Kampala with its nearest port on Lake Victoria, Port Bell.

Extensions.—A railway from Jinja to Kampala (distance approximately 57 miles) has been sanctioned, and construction is making rapid progress. It is expected that this line will be completed in 1931.

All the above lines have metre-gauge.

Lake Services.

76. *Lake Victoria.*—There is a weekly service connecting Entebbe, Port Bell (Kampala), and Jinja with Kisumu, and a fortnightly service to other ports on this Lake. A local service connects the Sese Islands and Buvuma Island with the ports on the mainland.

East Nile and Lakes Kioga and Kwania.—A regular service is run from Namasagali to all ports on Lakes Kioga and Kwania and the East Nile up to Atura.

Lake Albert.—A steamer service, with headquarters at Butiaba, affords regular communication with the north-eastern confines of the Belgian Congo at Mahagi and Kasenyi, and with the Nile ports as far north as the Sudan frontier post at Nimule.

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77. *Development of Waterways.*—Surveys and clearing works are being carried out by the Railway Administration on the Kagera River, which discharges into Lake Victoria at a point approximately midway between the northern and southern limits of the western shores of the Lake. The main difficulty is the bar, which is being dealt with by the aid of a suction dredger and a training wall. It is expected that the bar will be dredged to a depth of six feet by April, 1930, thus rendering a tentative service available.

The river is navigable to a point 97 miles from the mouth, when shallows and rapids prevent further navigation for craft suitable for dealing with cargo. The purpose of this development is to tap the tin fields of Ankole, with possibilities of traffic from the areas further westward.

Motor Transport and Roads.

78. Information as to the maintenance and improvement of existing roads is given in Section VII (Public Works). Apart from the roads maintained by the Public Works Department, a considerable mileage of good motor roads is kept up by the native administrations.

79. The Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours Administration has a road motor service linking Masindi port on the East Nile with Butiaba on Lake Albert, a distance of 75 miles. The Public Works Department maintains services on a few other roads, but in the main the road transport services are now in private hands, and, with the encouragement provided by good all-weather roads and a steady demand for motor transport, are making very rapid progress.

Aviation.

80. Full-sized landing grounds exist at Entèbbe and Jinja, and an emergency ground is being constructed at Tororo. The former of these, being close to Lake Victoria, has landing facilities for marine aircraft also. Port Bell and Butiaba have been selected as seaplane stations on the Alexandria to Cape Town air route, and in connection with this service wireless and meteorological stations are to be erected near Kampala.

81. Arrangements for the mail service between Cairo and Cape Town, a connection with that between London and Karachi, have been nearly completed between Imperial Airways, Ltd., and the Governments concerned, and it is hoped that a start will have been made with the running of the service by the beginning of 1931. It is intended that, when the service is in operation, the north-bound and south-bound aircraft shall meet at Port Bell about noon on Saturdays.

82. Many private aviators visited Uganda, or passed over it, during the year. The Nile is at present part of the recognized

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route for all air traffic between Europe and British East and South Africa. The machines of the annual Royal Air Force Cape-to-Cairo Flight, in co-operation with those of the South African Air Force, visited Entebbe in the early months and carried out exercises with the local Forces.

83. Uganda has no large unmapped areas to survey, and therefore provides no scope for aerial surveys under present conditions. Air traffic and the importation of goods by air are regulated in the Protectorate by the Air Navigation (Colonies and Protectorates) Order in Council, 1922, and the Air Navigation (Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories) Order in Council, 1927. Local Directions under the latter and Regulations under the former were published in 1929, and the Director of Public Works was thereby appointed Registrar of Aircraft for the Protectorate.

Posts and Telegraphs.

84. The financial results of the year's working of the Post and Telegraph Department, which is amalgamated with that of Kenya under the control of a Postmaster-General at Nairobi, were satisfactory. The Protectorate's share of the revenue rose from £47,835 in 1928 to £52,260, an increase of over 9 per cent. Recurrent expenditure increased by £921 to £43,749 or 2.15 per cent. Capital expenditure under the Department's Head in the Estimates amounted to £2,075, as compared with £4,434 during the previous year. During the year under review, however, a further sum of £4,579 on capital account was provided for the first time out of surplus balances. The total capital expenditure for the year was, therefore, £6,654, or £2,220 more than in the previous year.

85. The various Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone services were satisfactorily maintained during the year and are steadily being developed in accordance with the requirements of the community.

86. The total mileage of telegraph and telephone pole route at the end of the year was 1,712 miles and the wire mileage 3,890 miles. Satisfactory progress was made with the programme of reconstructing decaying wooden pole routes on a permanent basis by using light iron poles, and some 184 miles of route were so dealt with during the year. This reconstruction programme was started in 1927 and, to the end of 1929, 267 miles of pole route have been reconditioned. Some 687 miles remain to be attended to. In addition, 80 miles of road routes were re-aligned along new railway extensions. Work of this character very substantially improves the reliability of telegraph communications and reduces maintenance costs. Altogether the system was extended by some 279 miles of wire. With the exception of outlying districts in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, all administrative centres are connected by telegraph.

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87. It has been decided to erect a wireless station at Kololo, near Kampala, in connection with the Cairo-Cape air service.

88. The Savings Bank continues to expand at a fairly rapid rate, and is obviously gaining in popularity and winning the confidence of those whom it is intended to benefit. The balance standing to the credit of depositors rose from £25,205 in 1928 to £32,532, an increase of 29 per cent. Deposits increased by 22 per cent. in number and 33 per cent. in value, whilst withdrawals increased by 53 per cent. in number and 41 per cent. in value. The number of depositors rose from 1,490 to 1,912. African depositors numbered 1,262, an increase of 27 per cent. over the number for the previous year.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

89. The Criminal Statistics for the year under review show a marked increase (18 per cent.) in crime, mainly in municipal, road, and other miscellaneous minor offences, though a slight increase in crimes of a serious nature is also noticeable. There was a decrease of 3½ per cent. in civil litigation. The following table gives particulars of the Criminal and Civil jurisdiction for the last five years :—

CRIMINAL.

Year.	*Discharged for want of evidence.*	*Convicted.*	*Acquitted.*	*Found Insane.*	*Total number of persons.*	*Total number of cases.*
1925 ...	445	5,747	484	4	6,680	5,410
1926 ...	374	5,932	388	3	6,697	5,141
1927 ...	418	6,630	695	3	7,746	6,284
1928 ...	479	7,155	515	3	8,152	6,626
1929 ...	614	8,649	459	2	9,724	7,833

CIVIL.

Year.	*Amounts of £15 and under.*	*Amounts above £15 to £50.*	*Amounts above £50 to £150.*	*Amounts above £150.*	*Value not stated.*	*Total.*
1925 ...	717	511	262	68	7	1,565
1926 ...	1,271	836	342	105	17	2,571
1927 ...	1,674	1,038	497	104	28	3,341
1928 ...	1,718	749	276	70	14	2,827
1929 ...	1,668	677	272	75	16	2,708

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APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

Year.	Appeals.		Confirmation of death sentences.	Revision.		Total.
	Civil.	Criminal.		Civil (and Reference).	Criminal (and Reference).	
1925 ...	9	42	9	1	104	165
1926 ...	17	36	3	4	47	107
1927 ...	17	46	9	1	50	123
1928 ...	18	48	2	3	71	142
1929 ...	12	82	6	—	38	138

90. There were 726 Native Courts in the Protectorate during 1929, the supervision and inspection of which were carried out by administrative officers as in previous years. The returns from these Courts show a total of 77,522 cases for the year, the judgments in 503 of which were reversed or varied on revision or appeal.

91. The authorized establishment of the Protectorate Police Force was raised to 26 Officers, three European Non-Commissioned Officers, seven Asiatic Non-Commissioned Officers and 1,207 African Non-Commissioned Officers and Men; of this number, three Officers, two European Non-Commissioned Officers, two Asiatic Non-Commissioned Officers and 72 African Ranks are on the staff of the Criminal Investigation Department. The number of criminal cases dealt with by this Force in 1929 was 7,578, an increase of 1,144 on the previous year's number. 6,055 persons were convicted.

92. The Native Governments and Administrations continued to provide their own police and prison staff, which, working in conjunction with the Protectorate Forces, maintain a satisfactory standard of law and order among the native population.

93. The Protectorate Government Gaols contained a total of 2,387 convicts at the close of the year.

94. Work on the European and Asiatic section of the New Central Prison was commenced in April, but had not been completed at the close of the year. Practically all the unskilled labour required for the building operations is supplied from the prison population.

95. The number of Native Government Prisons and lock-ups was increased to provide further accommodation for short-term prisoners convicted by Native Courts.

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VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

96. The total expenditure on Public Works for the year under review amounted to £446,558, as compared with £341,306 in 1928. This expenditure was made up as follows :—

	£
Public Works Department, Personal Emoluments ...	56,703
Public Works Department, Special Temporary Staff ...	8,637
Public Works Department, Other Charges	27,416
Public Works Department, Annually Recurrent ...	57,143
Public Works Department, Extraordinary	203,596
Government Timber Supply	8,309
Jinja Water Supply, Maintenance	3,289
Kampala Water Supply Construction (Loan)	23,739
Imperial Loan Ordinance, 1915	969
Development Loan	47
Transport Section	40,275
Other Departmental Votes and Private Accounts ...	16,435
	£446,558

97. Of this expenditure, £143,567 was spent on buildings the principal of which were the High Court at Kampala and the Central Goal. The former was carried nearly to completion and the second instalment of the latter was begun. At Jinja a block of Central Government Offices was also begun.

98. The expenditure on Maintenance of Main Roads was £33,335 and the mileage maintained was 1,481 miles. A sum of £3,778 was spent on improving existing main roads by widening and the elimination of dangerous corners. A further sum of £27,208 was spent on road construction, including £5,462 for permanent bridges and culverts on third-class roads. A new programme of road construction in the Western Province was begun, the first item being a new road from Mbarara to the new port which is to be opened at Kabuera on the Kagera River.

99. The combined railway and road bridge across the Nile at Jinja, which is being constructed by the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbours, was begun and at the end of the year £11,249 had been spent.

100. The construction of the Kampala Water Supply was begun and during the year £23,739 was spent. The estimated cost of the whole scheme is £106,000.

101. During the year, expert advice was obtained and schemes were in preparation for the town planning and surface drainage and sewerage of Kampala and Jinja. Mr. A. E. Mirams was responsible for the first subject and Messrs. Howard Humphreys and Sons for the latter. Mr. Beeby-Thompson also visited Uganda

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and submitted a report on the possibilities of boring for water throughout Uganda, especially in the drier parts in the east and north of the Protectorate, as a result of which arrangements were made to institute a Water Drilling Section in the Public Works Department and to purchase drilling plant.

102. The following were the average numbers of skilled labour employed in the Public Works Department each month :—

	African.	*Asiatic.*
Carpenters	305	324
Masons	448	35
Painters	38	2
Blacksmiths	12	7
Mechanics, Fitters, &c., Brick-makers, Sawyers, &c.	358	30

The average number of unskilled labour employed each month was 8,806, all of whom were Africans.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

103. There has again been a considerable increase in the amount of medical work undertaken during the year as compared with previous years. The total number of new cases presenting themselves for treatment or medical examination was 654,302, as compared with 548,163 in 1928 and 480,516 in 1927. The total attendances numbered 2,590,394, an increase of 314,669 over the numbers for the previous year. Of the new cases, 25,373 were admitted to hospital as in-patients; the total number of in-patient-days was 456,713 and the average daily number in hospital was 1,251; the corresponding figures for 1928 were 21,452, 429,941, and 1,175 respectively. The number of surgical operations performed under general anaesthesia was 2,563, as compared with 2,707 in 1928. This is the only item in the work undertaken which shows a numerical decrease in comparison with previous years.

104. The number of sub-dispensaries actually open to patients during the year was 59, as compared with 56 in 1928. New sub-dispensaries were opened at Busingiro in the Bunyoro District and at Minakulu in the Gulu District, and the existing unit at Moroto has been shown this year as a sub-dispensary in the Karamoja District. The 59 sub-dispensaries include the three units attached to the gaols, labour camps, and police lines in Kampala, which are organized upon the same lines as sub-dispensaries, so that the actual number of village sub-dispensaries was 56. There were 333,946 new cases treated at these sub-dispensaries, and the total attendances numbered 1,483,330, as compared with 287,746 cases and 1,287,343 attendances in 1928. More than half of the out-patient treatment in the Protectorate during the year was undertaken at sub-dispensaries, and the treatment was carried out by native medical assistants and attendants.

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105. It was considered that the yearly expansion of medical work undertaken, which has been so marked a feature during the last 10 years, was taxing unduly the capacity of the existing European staff, and that their energies could be better spent on consolidation and improvement of the present position. There is however a real demand from native populations for increased facilities for medical treatment and it appears impracticable and undesirable to curb this demand in too drastic a manner. Until this abates, consolidation and improvement must of necessity be slow.

106. It has been possible this year to arrive at the actual cost of sub-dispensaries under certain headings of expenditure, and the results are summarized below :—

Province.	*Expenditure during the year.*						*Average annual cost of one sub-dispensary.*
	Number of sub-dispensaries considered.	*Personal emoluments, Native Staff.*	*Supervision (i.e. car and bicycle allowances).*	*Drugs, dressings, and equipment.*	*Upkeep and miscellaneous expenditure.*	*Total expenditure.*	
		£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Buganda	16	943 13	679 11	3,056 7	39 18	4,719 9	295 0
Eastern...	16	1,265 12	968 18	4,144 4	25 8	6,404 2	400 5
Western	12	455 6	222 2	2,008 18	—	2,686 6	223 17
Northern	11	413 16	327 17	2,123 3	64 6	2,929 2	266 6
Total ...	55	3,078 7	2,199 6	11,332 6	129 12	16,738 19	304 7

107. The following table shows the payments or reimbursements made during the year by Native Administrations towards the recurrent expenses of sub-dispensaries :—

Province.	*Payments and Reimbursements by Native Administrations.*				*Total expenditure, all sources.*
	Personal emoluments, Native staff.	*Supervision (i.e. car and bicycle allowances).*	*Drugs, dressings and equipment.*	*Total payments and reimbursements.*	
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Buganda ...	—	—	1,600 0	1,600 0	4,719 9
Eastern ...	575 13	386 0	1,002 0	1,963 13	6,404 2
Western ...	404 17	—	—	404 17	2,686 6
Northern...	—	—	—	—	2,929 2
Total ...	980 10	386 0	2,602 0	3,968 10	16,738 19

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108. *Deaths.*—There were 1,314 deaths amongst in-patients of Government hospitals during the year, as compared with 1,220 in 1928 and 1,111 in 1927. The principal causes of death during these three years are given below :—

	1929.	1928.	1927.
Pneumonia	294	215	165
Accidents	142	107	118
Plague	123	44	64
Syphilis	63	56	57
Dysentery	60	116	116
Malaria	50	61	46
Tuberculosis	34	42	36
Relapsing Fever	19	22	50

The outstanding features of this table are the proportionate and actual increase in the number of deaths from pneumonia and plague, and the decrease in the case of dysentery and relapsing fever. The case-incidence of plague was exceptionally high during the year.

109. *Vital Statistics.*—The vital statistics returns for the year reveal a very satisfactory state of affairs in almost every instance. Death-rates and still-birth rates are only available for five districts. Birth-rates and infantile mortality rates are submitted for the whole Protectorate. Arrangements were made during the year for the submission of all returns by all districts of the Protectorate, and these will be available in 1930. The figures that follow refer to the *native* population only.

The birth-rate for the Protectorate remains almost stationary at 28.13 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 28.14 in 1928. The infantile mortality rate for the Protectorate has shown a small but steady decline since returns were introduced in 1926 :—

1926	1927	1928	1929
276.27	259.73	254.35	232.75

The returns for the Kingdom of Buganda are, on the whole, very encouraging. The birth-rate was 19.78, and the death-rate 18.47, as compared with 19.50 and 18.98 recorded in 1928. The still-birth rate rose from 4.82 to 6.65 per thousand births and still-births. The infantile Mortality Return reveals a most satisfactory state of affairs :—

1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
179.40	157.17	149.90	130.27	155.32	112.86

The return from the Mengo District of an infantile mortality rate of 100.98 is comparable to returns rendered by some more highly civilised countries.

The returns submitted by the Eastern Province are satisfactory. A birth-rate of 27.60 was recorded and an infantile mortality rate of 253.54—in both cases an improvement on the rates for 1928,

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which were 25.84 and 313.88 respectively. Death returns and still-birth returns are submitted by the Busoga District only. The death-rate for this district, which was 18.91, has shown a steady decrease since 1923 when a rate of 35.06 was recorded.

The Western Province returns are not so satisfactory, though they show an undoubted tendency towards improvement. The still-birth rates for Toro and Ankole of 24.03 and 17.82 are very high, and the infantile mortality rates of 322.66 and 338.30 are also very high.

The returns from the Northern Province as a whole are satisfactory but cannot be regarded as very reliable. The district of Bunyoro has been for many years the source of the greatest anxiety with regard to the vital statistics of its population. A low birth-rate, a high death-rate, and very high still-birth and infantile mortality rates over a number of years have threatened this tribe with gradual extinction. At last it does appear that medical efforts in this district show some indication of bearing fruit, though the death-rate remains regrettably high. All available figures for this district are set out below :—

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Birth rate	15.57	18.81	15.77	14.24	17.54	18.25	21.63	23.77
Death rate	24.60	25.67	25.89	22.44	22.57	20.03	26.98	28.76
Still-birth rate	38.58	35.80	33.77	32.18	30.32	29.68	29.53	20.44
Infantile mortality rate	—	—	—	—	534.93	433.14	416.53	382.36

110. *Medical Education.*—Four Senior Native Medical Assistants, who had passed their final examinations after completing a five-year course at Makerere College and Mulago Medical School and who had served a further period of one year at Mulago Hospital gaining clinical experience, became available for employment in the Medical Service. One was retained at Mulago Hospital to assist in the training of native attendants; one was posted to take charge under the supervision of the District Medical Officer, Ankole, of the 80-bed hospital attached to the road-construction unit in the Western Province; one was posted to Arua, where he acted as Sub-Assistant Surgeon for some months, and the fourth was posted to the sub-dispensary at Ajumani in West Madi sub-district, since it is difficult for the Medical Officer, Moyo, to exercise adequate supervision over this post owing to its isolated position.

The training of lower-grade native attendants was continued at Mulago Hospital and the organisation of the general training scheme was advanced.

111. *Malaria.*—Colonel James, adviser on Tropical Diseases to the Ministry of Health, visited Uganda to advise upon the question of malaria prevention in April and June, and as a result of his recommendations a Malaria Survey Unit under the general direction of the Deputy Director of Laboratory Service was formed and consisted of a malaria medical officer, an entomologist, a labora-

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tory assistant, and a laboratory apprentice. A survey of conditions relating to malaria in Kampala was commenced by this unit in April and is still being carried on.

112. *Plague.*—A severe outbreak of plague occurred in the Mengo District and the Eastern Province. During the year, the number of deaths reached a total of 5,118 of which 2,518 occurred in the Mengo District. This is the largest number of deaths recorded since 1921 when 5,871 were reported by Medical Officers.

IX.—EDUCATION.

113. There has been steady progress in all grades of schools throughout the year, and the system of organised education now established is beginning to bear fruit. There is still a lack of trained teachers, but steps have been taken to deal with this problem, and all aided elementary schools are now staffed with either permanent or temporary certificated teachers. It will be some years before we can hope to have trained teachers in the thousands of village schools scattered all over the Protectorate, but arrangements have been made through the District Boards of Education for special classes for this type of teacher.

114. Every endeavour is being made to give the education in the village schools a definite agricultural bias, and agricultural training schools for teachers are being established by the Agricultural Department at Serere (Eastern Province) and Bukalasa (Buganda Province). All teachers in elementary and village schools will be required to take a course at these institutions before they can qualify for certificates.

115. The teaching of Swahili is now definitely established in the Eastern Province and good progress has been made. This language will be taught in all training institutions for village school teachers except in Buganda. The existing text-books written for the Swahili-speaking tribes of the East African littoral are not suitable for inland natives, who are only commencing a study of the language; the provision of more suitable texts should be the first care of the newly-established Inter-Territorial Language Committee.

116. The policy of co-operation between the missions and the Government is giving good results, and the missions are to be congratulated on the keenness and energy displayed by the majority of the educational staffs. There were seventy candidates from mission schools for forty-six vacancies at Makerere College, and all Government educational institutions are receiving whole-hearted support from the missions. The Government Model School at Kasawo, situated about 40 miles north-west of Kampala near Nakifuma, has made a most promising start; the average attendance was well over 100, and all the pupils who entered for the Elementary Vernacular Leaving Examination were successful with a high percentage of marks.

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A hostel for teachers taking a special course at this school will be opened next year.

117. The following comparative table gives particulars of expenditure on Education during the last five years :—

Year.	*Total Government expenditure on Education.*	*Total revenue.*	*Percentage of total revenue expended on Education.*	*Amount spent by Government on Education per head of population.*
	£	£		Cts.
1924 ...	17,521	1,239,789	1.4	10
1925 ...	24,595	1,479,284	1.7	16
1926 ...	42,664	1,389,641	3.07	28
1927 ...	48,001	1,292,306	3.7	32
1928 ...	49,556	1,519,237	3.06	30
1929 ...	56,230	1,682,918	3.34	33

118. The following table is a summary of the schools, together with the teachers and the pupils attending them. The figures given must be regarded as approximate :—

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS.

	Protestant.	*Roman Catholic.*	*Total.*
No. of Schools	34	23	57
No. of European Teachers	23	35	58
No. of Native Teachers	88	41	129
No. of Scholars (Boys)	1,129	752	1,881
No. of Scholars (Girls)	222	192	414

NORMAL SCHOOLS.

	Protestant.	*Roman Catholic.*	*Total.*
No. of Schools	6	6	12
No. of European Teachers	7	7	14
No. of Native Teachers	15	9	24
No. of Students (Male)	103	136	239
No. of Students (Female)	124	70	194

ELEMENTARY VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

	Protestant.	*Roman Catholic.*	*Non-Mission.*	*Total.*
No. of Schools	101	92	14	207
No. of European Teachers ...	5	73	1	79
No. of Native Teachers ...	310	354	41	705
No. of Adults	—	30	3	33
No. of Boys	4,547	6,988	591	12,126
No. of Girls	2,137	1,645	—	3,782

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SUB-GRADE SCHOOLS.

	Protestant.	*Roman Catholic.*	*Total.*
No. of Schools	2,856	2,419	5,275
No. of European	—	44	44
No. of Native Teachers	3,613	3,068	6,681
No. of Adults	419	4,710	5,129
No. of Boys	72,029	59,906	131,935
No. of Girls	53,217	35,471	88,688

TECHNICAL TRAINING.

Schools.	*Number in Training.*
Non-Mission Schools	145
Protestant Schools	47
Catholic Schools	233
Total ...	425

INDIAN SCHOOLS.

	Khoja.	*Public.*	*Total.*
No. of Schools	6	8	14
No. of Boys	182	287	469
No. of Girls	115	117	232
No. of Teachers	14	20	34

X.—LAND AND SURVEY.

119. Notable progress has been made in the provision of trigonometrical control in that a number of major operations for which preparation had been made in previous years was brought to finality. A base line was measured in Chua District at no greater distance from the Sudan frontier, thus completing the present programme of base measurement in the Protectorate. The Northern Section of the Eastern Meridional Chain of major triangulation joining the Chua Base to the East-West Longitudinal Chain in the Teso District was observed, and was eventually extended northwards to effect a junction with certain trigonometrical stations of the Sudan Survey. A further chain of triangles joining the old Uganda Survey in Buganda with the southern extremity of the Eastern Meridional Chain was carried across Southern Busoga; and a circuit of secondary observations from Kitgum through Gulu to Lira was also completed.

120. The survey of estates guaranteed to natives of Buganda by the Uganda Agreement 1900 was continued, a further area of some 316 square miles being completed during the year. It may be assumed that of the total land area of Buganda, which is now estimated at 17,381 square miles, some 11,305 square miles, or 65.04 per cent. of the whole have been covered by detail cadastral survey.

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Similar obligations, but on a much smaller scale, are imposed by the Toro Agreement 1900 and the Ankole Agreement 1901. The settlement in Toro has already been completed; in Ankole, where some 334 square miles of scattered claims call for demarcation, substantial progress continues to be made.

121. Township plots continue to be the subject-matter of the great majority of transactions in Crown lands, and a total of some 242 new building leases of various descriptions have been issued during the year. As regards land for agricultural and similar purposes, leases for some 4,675 acres in 24 parcels were actually issued during the year—figures which show a slight falling off from those of 1928. Attention in the past has been directed for the most part to parcels of a few hundred acres in area for coffee cultivation, but applications received during the year point to the creation of an interest in other products, and negotiations are proceeding for the provision of land on a large scale for sisal production in Bunyoro and for sugar growing in Busoga.

122. Considerable activity continues to be displayed in Buganda in respect of inter-native transfers of small holdings which are being carved out of larger estates. There is consequent encouraging increase in the volume of transactions submitted to the Office of Titles for registration.

123. The Land and Survey Department received a visit of inspection from Brigadier H. St. J. L. Winterbotham, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., Chief of the Geographical Section of the General Staff of the War Office, and was very favourably reported on.

Geological Survey.

124. Little systematic field work was undertaken during the year. The field activities carried out included an examination of the deposits of clays and sands around Kampala with a view to finding out possible sites for brickworks which should be outside the five-mile radius, and the Namanve Forest was chosen for the purpose. The structural geology of the country along the Western Rift Valley was further studied and the features of the recent volcanic area of Bunyaruguru, together with those of the area north-east of Fort Portal, and the hot springs of Buranga on the western foot of the northern end of the Ruwenzori Range, were investigated. Geological surveys of the area around the township of Kamuli in the Eastern Province and of a portion of South-west Bunyoro were made. During the course of the latter work further mapping of the Bunyoro glacial tillites was carried out and the area occupied by them determined, and the existence of an early Palaeozoic or late pre-Cambrian glaciation in Bunyoro was confirmed. In the Busoba area of the Eastern Province a collection of fossil plants was made from a small basin of lacustrine sediments which appear to be either of upper Cretaceous or lower Tertiary age.

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125. During the year prospecting and exploratory operations were actively carried out in the cassiterite-bearing areas of south-west and southern Ankole. New and promising deposits of cassiterite were found on the Namherere ridge four miles west of Mwirasandu. The quantity of tin ore exported during the year was 322 tons, of which 297 tons were derived from the Mwirasandu and Namherere mines. Further exploratory work was carried out at Kaina, 20 miles south-west of Mwirasandu, where small, rich patches of cassiterite were found from which 5.8 tons of that mineral were produced. From the mine of Ankole Tinfields, Ltd., at Kikagati, 18.3 tons of tinstone were won from the alluvial deposits there. The Central African Exploration Company have initiated systematic and scientific search for alluvial deposits of cassiterite. The copper occurrences at Kilembe in Toro were further prospected, though production has not yet commenced.

126. A set of geological maps of the tin-bearing areas in south-west Uganda has been published, and these can be obtained from the Geological Survey at Shs. 16/65 per set, including postage.

127. The usual mineral determination and assay work and advice to prospectors and other Government officials has been continued.

128. Many distinguished visitors who, after attending the International Geological Congress and the British Association Meeting in South Africa, visited Uganda to study different problems were conducted through various parts of the country by the officers of the Geological Survey.

129. Exploratory drilling for water by means of $2\frac{3}{4}$-inch core drills, which was started in 1928 in the Soroti district of the Eastern Province, was continued till September, 1929. The results on the whole justify a reasonable hope that development in this direction will be of great benefit, for the existence of a definite underground water zone throughout most of the area covered is established. The yield of water to two holes has justified the erection of pumping machinery without any enlargement or development. The use of a different type of drill with a larger diameter will, it is expected, give satisfactory yields of water in at least 50 per cent. of the holes sunk.

130. The work of the Seismological Observatory has been carried on as usual, quarterly reports being submitted to the Seismological Committee of the British Association. A new building for the observatory was completed during the year.

XI.—LABOUR.

General.

131. The year under review has seen the commencement and continuation of several works of importance, involving the employment of large numbers of unskilled labour. Of these, the construction of the Jinja-Kampala Railway, commenced in November,

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1928, must take first place. Throughout the construction of this line only local labour recruited on a three months' contract has been employed. There were 14,611 labourers recruited from Buganda Province, principally from the Mengo and Entebbe districts, and 5,711 from Busoga District in the Eastern Province, making a total of 20,322.

132. Labourers were employed whenever possible on piece work, and the resultant output has been extremely satisfactory. The health of the labour has been good throughout the year, and the excellent spirit which has obtained, and the absence of complaints, may be taken as a tribute to the popular conditions of employment pertaining to this work.

133. Commencing in June of this year a labour strength of 2,800 has been maintained on the construction of the Mbarara-Kagera Port road in the Ankole District of the Western Province, and other works of a public nature have necessitated the recruitment by the Labour Department of 1,213 labourers.

134. The Public Works Department have maintained an average labour strength of 8,276 a month; the majority of this labour is employed on the normal monthly contract and is recruited locally. The situation thus revealed can be regarded as healthy and the supply of labour as equal to the demand.

135. Labour requirements for plantations, ginneries, and mines have been met without difficulty, and permits for the recruitment of 22,255 labourers were issued during the year. The West Nile District remains the popular recruiting ground for private employers, and the new concentration camp at Butiaba erected during the course of the year fulfils a long-felt want. Accommodation and rations are available there and at other Government camps for the use of labour recruited on permit by the general public.

136. The recruitment and supervision of labour for railway and road construction has to a large extent diminished the opportunities of the Labour Department for the continuation of the systematic inspection of normal labour conditions throughout the Protectorate, commenced in 1927. It however gives cause for satisfaction that in the majority of cases the general conditions of employment such as housing, feeding, and sanitation show a very marked improvement.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

137. During the year, 16 Ordinances were passed. The Industrial Alcohol Ordinance provided that all spirits distilled in the Protectorate must, with certain exceptions, be converted into denatured alcohol. This Ordinance follows generally the Kenya Industrial Alcohol Ordinance, 1921.

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138. The Cotton (Amendment) Ordinance gave effect to one of the recommendations of the Cotton Commission and restricts holders of ginning licences from increasing the ginning capacity of their ginneries without the sanction of the Director of Agriculture.

139. The Surcharges (Revenue) Ordinance imposed surcharges after delay in certain Revenue payments. Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the past in collecting the rates specified in the Schedule to the Ordinance, and it is hoped that by imposing a surcharge after a reasonable time has elapsed that payments will be made promptly.

140. The remaining Ordinances that were enacted call for no special comment.

Climate and Meteorology.

141. The climate of the Protectorate, when compared with that of some tropical countries, is not unpleasant. The conditions vary in different parts, but there are no "highlands" occupied by European settlers as in Kenya. European children as a rule thrive in infancy, but some risk is attached to bringing them out when they are over six or seven years old, as they are liable to attacks of malaria and the resultant anaemia. The health of adults depends mainly on their mode of life and, with care, constitutional health should not be impaired. Outdoor manual labour is dangerous for Europeans, and on plantations a manager's or owner's duties are for the most part supervisory. With the exceptions mentioned below, the temperature is moderate and varies but slightly throughout the year.

142. The mean maximum temperature for most districts averages 80° F., and the mean minimum 60° F. On the Ruwenzori range there is extreme cold with perpetual snow, and it is also cold on the higher slopes of Mount Elgon. In the Nile valley near Lake Albert, on the other hand, the mean maximum temperature is 90° F. and the mean minimum 74° F. The favourite localities for European plantations are the Toro district of the Western Province, the Buganda Province (particularly the Mengo and Mubende districts), and the Bunyoro district of the Northern Province. There are a few estates in Busoga (Eastern Province), but this area is not a popular one.

143. Statistics taken at Entebbe give the following results :—

Average rainfall for the last 34 years—59.14″

Average temperature for the last 29 years—maximum, 78.8°; minimum, 62.9°.

Mean daily sunshine for 1929—7 hours 18 minutes.

The rainfall at Entebbe for the year, which was below the average, amounted to 41.52 inches distributed over 152 days. The highest

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rainfall was recorded at Kalangala (Sese Islands) where 76.23 inches were registered, and the lowest at Butiaba, where 27.85 inches were registered.

144. Two main rainy seasons are anticipated annually. The first, or " long " rains, usually begin in March and may continue throughout June; the second, or " short " rains, begin in September and extend through October and occasionally November; generally speaking, both seasons are experienced throughout the Protectorate. Much of the rain falls during the night or early morning. Violent thunderstorms and heavy showers occur frequently in the daytime, but these are only of local incidence.

145. A Central Meteorological Service for the East African territories has been established, with headquarters at Nairobi. A first-order meteorological station in connection with this Service and the Cape Town air mail is to be set up and equipped with wireless at Kololo Hill, near Kampala.

Veterinary.

146. During the year, rinderpest spread slowly in Buganda Province, mainly through the agency of infected game. In Mengo District it was found necessary to immunize all the cattle of Buruli County and the greater part of Bulemezi County. The northern gombolola of Kyagwe County also became infected. The areas of central Bulemezi and the greater part of the Kyadondo and Kyagwe counties were kept free from infection. In Mubende District, where buffalo are exceptionally numerous, the disease spread in game through the counties of Buyaga, Bugangadzi, and Singo, and all cattle in these counties, except for a small area round Mityana, were immunized by inoculation. In December the disease appeared to have been eradicated in Buganda.

147. An extension of the disease from Buganda across the Nile into Busoga occurred and spread slowly, mainly in game, northward to Namasagali and eastward to Iganga. All cattle in the area were immunized. The disease did not spread to the main cattle areas, in which game is relatively scarce.

148. In October the disease appeared in game in Toro District as an extension of the game disease of Western Buganda. Outbreaks in cattle occurred on the fringes of the game area, but the disease did not reach the main cattle concentrations.

149. In Teso District rinderpest was finally eradicated in June. In Gulu District the disease smouldered during the year, infection being maintained in the susceptible game of the sleeping sickness area. In Budama and Bugishu Districts outbreaks occurred on the Kenya border but were eradicated without serious spread.

150. The total number of inoculations carried out during the year was 62,281.

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151. No outbreaks of contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia occurred during the year. Tuberculosis has been encountered in Ankole cattle in slaughter-houses, but there does not appear to be any evidence that an increase in the incidence of this disease has occurred.

152. Outbreaks of trypanosomiasis were reported from practically every district of the Protectorate, but no serious spread occurred. Treatment was undertaken in one outbreak involving 801 head of cattle. Investigations of tsetse fly belts were continued in both the West Nile and Ankole districts. The "smoke" houses in Ankole continued to give satisfactory results. A spread of the tsetse belt occurred in Ankole apparently owing to the construction of a road in the Kafunzu valley.

153. The training of Native Veterinary Assistants was continued, but the lack of building accommodation for class-rooms and shortage of staff prevented any attempt being made to proceed with the programme of absorbing the more highly educated Makerere graduates.

154. Work on the industrial development of the livestock industry has continued. Progress has been made in popularizing the castration of poor bulls in the Teso and Lango districts. Observation on the qualities of various local breeds of cattle has been continued and extended; and further importation of grade stock has been made with a view to extended observations on the ability of high-grade stock to acclimatize itself to local conditions.

155. Demonstrations of improved methods of hide preparation were continued both at special posts and by officers in the field, but progress has been largely retarded by the continuation of a flat-rate system of buying, which tends to remove any incentive to the production of a better article.

156. In the continued absence of a laboratory the Research Division has not been able to maintain progress. An exhaustive examination of possible sites for a Veterinary Laboratory was made during the year with a view to early erection.

Game.

157. The Game Department was formed at the end of 1924 primarily with the object of controlling the huge herds of elephants, which find a home in many parts of the Protectorate, and of protecting native cultivation. The results have unquestionably been successful. It is estimated that there are in Uganda at least 20,000 elephants, which, on account of normal progress and expansion now accelerated considerably by rapidity of development of communications (railways and roads), have to be confined in a rapidly dwindling area. During 1929 over one thousand elephants were killed by the Game Rangers and native guards.

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158. There is little game in the populated areas, though in outlying districts, in certain well-favoured localities, and in the Sleeping Sickness Restricted Areas, there is plenty and of good variety. Included in the fauna of the Protectorate are such rare and interesting animals as the northern race of the white rhinoceros, the mountain gorilla, the situtunga, and the grotesque whale-headed stork.

159. There are three Game Reserves on the mainland :—(1) The Bunyoro and Gulu Game Reserve, nearly 2,000 square miles in extent, through which the Victoria Nile runs from east to west. It acts principally as an elephant sanctuary and contains a herd of approximately 7,000. (2) The Semliki Game Reserve of 202 square miles, affording protection to a variety of antelopes, buffaloes, and a few small herds of elephants; and (3) the Lake George Game Reserve of 123 square miles, which is a seasonal refuge of herds of elephants and buffaloes and protects partially a race of waterbuck carrying exceptionally fine trophies. All Sleeping Sickness Restricted Areas automatically fulfil the role of Game Reserves. The Island of Damba in Lake Victoria is also a Game Reserve, affording protection to many hundreds of the interesting marsh antelope or situtunga.

160. From investigations made in Bunyoro during the short grass season at the beginning of 1929, it would appear that mortality amongst buffaloes in that district during the 1928 outbreak of rinderpest was exceptionaly high, and 446 skeletons were reported as having been found. Rinderpest, unfortunately, has continued to creep south, south-west, and west, and at the close of the year some disturbing outbreaks remained. It is calculated that, excepting deaths from rinderpest, at least 700 buffaloes have been killed during 1929.

161. Under the Game Ordinance of 1926 wide powers are given to land holders and owners in defence of crops or other property.

Licences to hunt, kill, or capture game may be obtained at fees which are low considering the generous schedule of animals allowed. " Full " game licences valid for twelve months can be issued to residents for £5 and to visitors for £50. Owing to the increasing numbers and the harm they do as transmitting agents of rinderpest, unlimited buffaloes may now be killed under any form of game licence.

Holders of " full " game licences may be granted special licences to kill or capture a first, second, or two elephants respectively on the payment of £10, £20, or £30. Such special licences are valid only for the period of validity of the " full " game licences under which they are issued.

There are also licences which are valid for a period of fourteen days, which cost a resident £2, and a visitor £5; a special licence

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to shoot one giraffe for £5; and a bird licence valid for twelve months costing Shs.10, and entitling the holder to kill or capture any of the birds listed in the fifth schedule of the Game Ordinance.

162. There are certain species of animals, the hunting of which is prohibited throughout the Protectorate. A list of these is given in Part A of the first schedule of the Game Ordinance. Governor's permits may be granted in special cases to kill or capture specimens of these protected animals.

163. Poaching is at a minimum, and the local inhabitants are displaying less inclination to kill such inoffensive creatures as giraffes and ostriches.

164. At the suggestion of various bodies interested in the preservation of African fauna, legislation was ready for enactment early in 1930 whereby the gorilla which frequent a remote portion of Kigezi District were to be protected in terms of territory, by the formation of a "Sanctuary," in addition to the protection afforded to them by the conscientious enforcement of the Game Ordinance.

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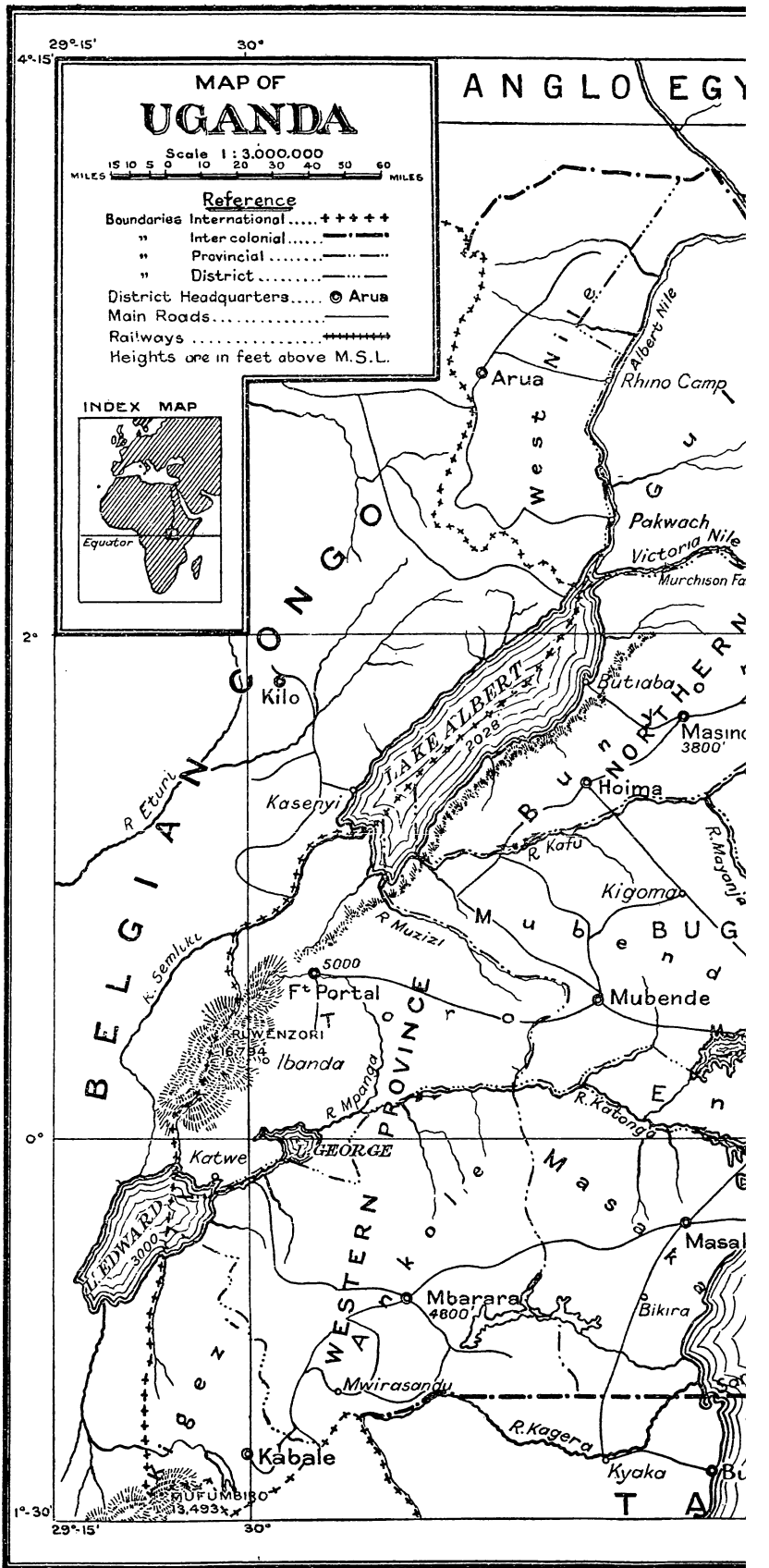

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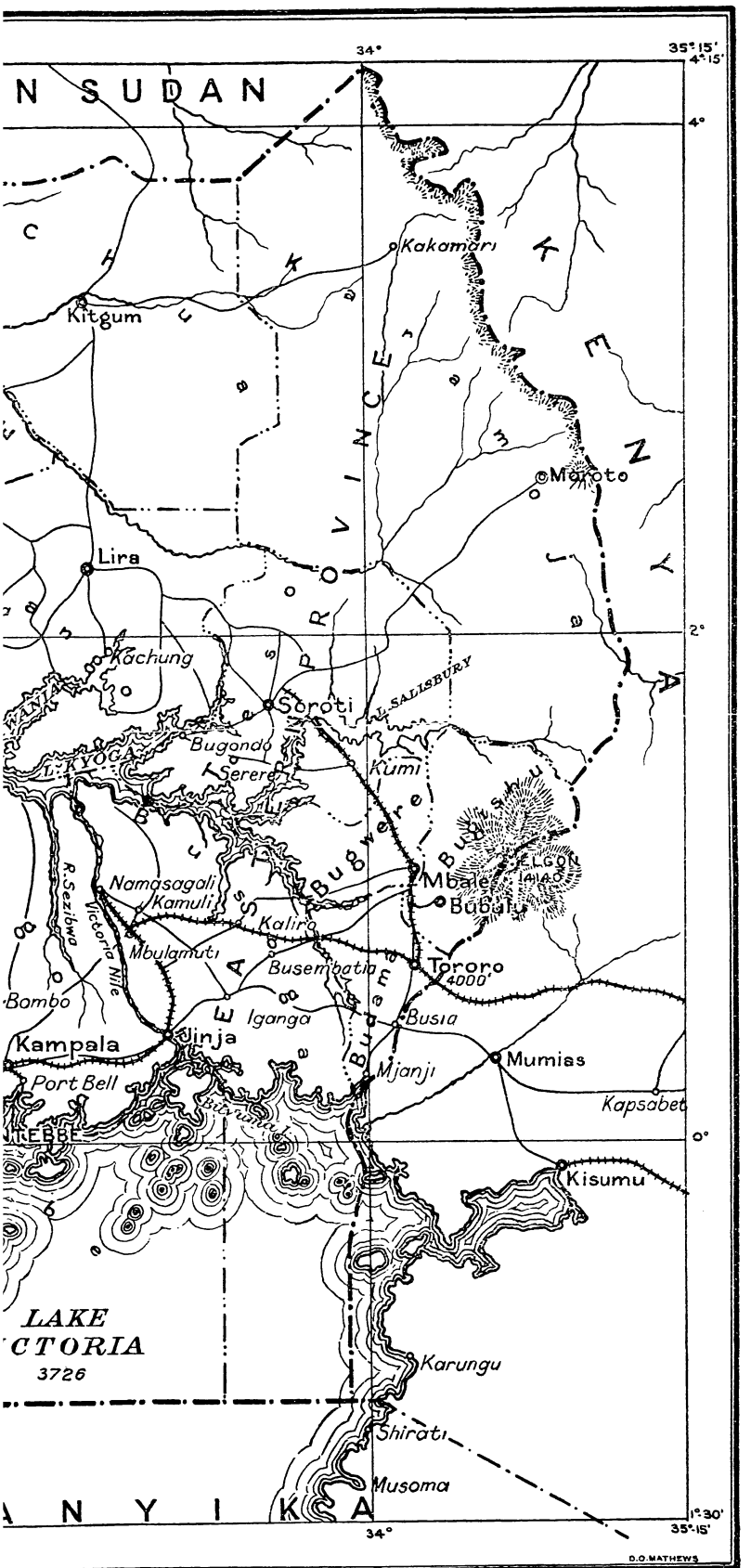

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Report. [Cmd. 2387.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 9d.).

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Report by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, M.P., on his visit during the period December, 1921, to February, 1922. [Cmd. 1679.] 3s. 0d. (3s. 2d.).

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BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1929.

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BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1929.

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PREFACE.

Geographical and Historical Note.

The British Solomon Islands Protectorate is situated between the parallels of 5° South and 12° 30′ South, and the meridians of 155° and 170° of East Longitude.

The Protectorate consists of a double row of mountainous islands, extending at its extremities from Bougainville Straits to Mitre Island, in the Santa Cruz Group, for a distance of 900 miles, and north and south from the Ontong Java Group to Rennell Island for a distance of 430 miles, in area approximately 249,000 square nautical miles, of which about 11,000 square miles are land.

The native population is estimated at 150,000.

The Solomon Islands were first discovered in the year 1568 by Alvaro de Mandana, while on a voyage of discovery from Peru. The island of Ysabel was first sighted, and Mandana bestowed the Christian name of his wife on the new discovery. In the year 1595 a second expedition under Mandana sailed from Peru, but he failed to locate the island of Guadalcanal, whereon it was intended he should form a settlement, and he arrived in the Santa Cruz Group, and landed at Graciosa Bay. The new Colony proved a failure, and the death of Mandana put an end to any prospect of success, and the remnants of the original party returned to Peru.

In 1767 Captain Carteret re-discovered the Santa Cruz Group and the north-west coast line of the island of Malaita.

In the same year de Bougainville, in the frigate "la Boudeuse," sailed from Monte Video on a deliberate quest for the Terra Australis, which he missed, and arrived at New Guinea; in sailing back he passed through the Straits which are the present north-eastern boundary of the Protectorate, the island on the right being named Bougainville after him, and the one on the left named after Choiseul, who was at the time Minister of France.

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Twenty years later, and 700 miles to the south-east, la Perouse, in command of the French frigates "l'Astrolabe" and "la Boussole" on a voyage of discovery, was wrecked at Pi'ou on the island of Vanikoro. His fate was unknown for 40 years.

From this time, many Europeans visited the Solomons, and British ships-of-war paid periodical visits.

In 1860 natives were recruited to work on the plantations in Queensland and Fiji. The recruiting for Queensland ceased in 1903, and most of the natives were repatriated. Recruiting for Fiji continued until 1910.

Between the years 1860 and 1893 the number of resident white traders gradually increased, until at the time of the Proclamation in 1893 of the British Protectorate over the Southern Solomon Islands (Guadalcanal, Savo, Malaita, San Cristoval, the New Georgia Group and its Dependencies) the number of white residents approached 50.

In 1898 and 1899 the islands of the Santa Cruz Group, including Utupua, Tucopia, Vanikoro, the remote islands of Cherry and Mitre, Sikiana, and the islands of Rennell and Bellona were added to the Protectorate, and in 1900 the Northern Solomons, namely, Ysabel, Choiseul, the islands of the Bougainville Straits, south and south-east of the main island of Bougainville, and the atoll group of Ontong Java, were transferred by Treaty from Germany to Great Britain.

Language.

There is no universal language in the Solomon Islands. Numerous dialects are spoken, and it frequently happens that natives living in villages a few miles apart are unable to understand one another. There are many parts of the Protectorate where a form of broken English is spoken and understood by the natives, especially in the eastern parts of the Group.

Currency.

Local currency notes are issued for sums of 5s., 10s., £1, and £5, and Australian currency is also in circulation.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in the Protectorate are the same as those in Great Britain.

I.—GENERAL.

No event of political importance has occurred during the year. The Administrative Officers in charge of the Districts of Malaita, Guadalcanal, Gizo, Santa Cruz, Shortlands, Ysabel, Eastern Solomons, and N'Gela, into which the Protectorate is divided, have travelled their respective districts as far as circumstances would permit. In districts composed of scattered groups of islands, the travelling depends almost entirely on the state of the weather

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and the efficiency of the district vessels, fitted with auxiliary motor-engines. On the large islands of Malaita, Guadalcanal, San Cristoval, and Ysabel, inland travelling is exceptionally difficult owing to the mountainous state of the country.

In May there was an outbreak of poliomyelitis among the native population. In this epidemic the first three known cases occurred simultaneously, almost to a day—one in Malaita district at Su'u, one on Savo Island in N'Gela district, and one in Gizo district in the Marovo Lagoon, but before they were discovered a prisoner in Tulagi gaol developed the disease on the 11th June, and at about the same time three cases occurred among the labourers on two adjoining coconut plantations in Guadalcanal district. No relationship between these widely-scattered early cases was ever discovered, nor is the source of infection known. The disease spread through the islands from these widely-scattered foci of infection. In all, 63 persons are known to have died as a result. Preventive measures were enforced with a view to preventing the spread of the disease by limitation of traffic and communication, and cases and contacts were isolated, as far as possible. The various mission bodies co-operated in tending to cases and in persuading natives to remain in their villages and avoid contact with outsiders.

The recruiting and repatriation of time expired labourers were suspended from June until the 9th September. Little difficulty was experienced by employers when the labourer was assured that his detention was caused by precautionary measures issued by the Government.

The economic conditions existing in the Protectorate, owing to the low price of copra, have occasioned considerable anxiety. The whole of the finances of the Protectorate are dependent directly or indirectly on the copra trade, and there is no doubt that the small European planter and the native planters have suffered very severely. Unfortunately, the high price hitherto paid for this product and the scarcity of available native labour discouraged the exploitation of secondary sources of wealth, and it is only now that the matter is being seriously considered.

By direction of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific, a Commission was appointed to inquire into the labour conditions. The Board consisted of Mr. J. C. Barley, First District Officer (Chairman), Dr. H. B. Hetherington, Senior Medical Officer, and Major F. Hewitt, M.C., Manager of Messrs. Lever's Pacific Plantations Proprietary Limited. The Board had not completed its deliberations by the end of the year.

The Advisory Council met on the 5th November and continued until the 8th November. The Council consisted of four official members, The Resident Commissioner, The Treasurer, Dr. H. B. Hetherington (Senior Medical Officer), Mr. J. C. Barley (First District Officer), and four non-official members, His Lordship the Bishop of Melanesia, Mr. Donald MacKinnon, Mr. Geoffrey Clift,

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and Major F. Hewitt, M.C. At this Meeting, the Estimates for the next year, draft Regulations, and official matters in connection with the Administration of the Protectorate were discussed.

On 22nd November, 1929, His Excellency Sir Murchison Fletcher, Kt., C.M.G., C.B.E., arrived in Fiji and assumed duty as High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

A reported find of gold on the north-west coast of the island of New Georgia in July caused a certain amount of sensation, both locally and in Australia. No evidence has been supplied to the Mining Board that gold in payable quantities has been discovered; however, 80 Miner's Rights have been issued, and 8 Prospecting Licences have been taken out.

II.—FINANCE.

The total revenue of the Protectorate for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929, was £79,935 4s. 3d., as against £75,664 6s. 10d. for the previous financial year.

The total expenditure was £91,622 0s. 6d., as against £73,993 3s. 10d. for the previous year.

The revenue and expenditure for the past five years has been as follows :—

Year.	*Revenue.*			*Expenditure.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1924-25	64,091	6	9	65,409	2	1
1925-26	71,430	5	3	60,330	3	3
1926-27	77,444	19	0	63,740	12	0
1927-28	75,664	6	10	73,993	3	10
1928-29	79,935	4	3	91,632	0	6

There has been no change in the method of raising revenue, and the rates of taxation have not been altered. There is no loan.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

With the exception of coconuts, there are no crops grown for export. Recently, owing to the depression of the copra market, a few of the more enterprising planters have begun to grow small quantities of secondary crops, such as cotton, groundnuts, and kapok.

Fisheries.

Bêche-de-mer and trocas and turtle shell are worked to a small extent.

Forestry.

There is no Forestry Department. A small quantity of timber is exported from Shortlands, and a considerable amount of kauri pine is shipped from Vanikoro by the timber company there.

A comprehensive table showing the comparative amount of the annual exports of the principal commodities during the last five years is given below :—

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Return of Exports, 1924–25 to 1928–29.

	1924–25.		1925–26.		1926–27.		1927–28.		1928–29.	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£		£
Bêch-de-mer... ... ... tons.	15½	1,896	16	2,727	26¾	7,512	39	7,470	22½	3,350
Copra... ... ... tons.	16,508	287,702	19,206	369,283	22,316	411,597	21,957	348,793	23,525	387,079
Black Lip Shell ... ... —	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green Snail Shell ... ... tons.	15	216	33	619	22	364	56	1,299	117	2,192
Mother Pearl Shell ... ... ton.	¾	88	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trocas Shell... ... ... tons.	334	11,153	377	21,245	260	14,200	299	12,653	401	17,383
Turtle Shell ... ... cwt.	2½	191	1½	198	3	297	3	327	2	235
Ivory Nuts ... ... tons.	1,568	23,421	1,380	16,144	893	12,158	1,363	13,579	1,458	15,892
Timber Logs... ... ... S.Ft.	283,106	4,818	526,876	7,261	719,901	5,750	224,629	2,060	1,069,499	9,700
Miscellaneous ... ... —	—	1,726	—	1,341	—	116	—	2,638	—	45,000
	—	331,211	—	418,818	—	451,994	—	388,819	—	480,831

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The State of Trade.

The value of imports at the close of the financial year 1928-29 had increased by £30,948, and the value of exports by £92,012.

The increase in exports is due to a quantity of zinc slabs and ore, value £40,000, which formed part of a cargo of a Norwegian Steamer burnt at Gizo.

Character and Nature of Trade.

Australia supplies the greater portion of the imports. This is due to the fact that the only regular steamship line trading with the Protectorate sails from ports in the Commonwealth.

Trade with the United Kingdom increased by £2,373 during the year 1928-29, and the increase in other parts of the Empire was £16,105.

Most of the plantations import their requirements direct from Australia, and there is practically no competition by local retailers.

A list of the principal imports, together with their country of origin, follows :—

Commodity.	*Imports.*	*Country of Origin.*
Kerosene	99,014 gals.	United States.
,,	133 ,,	Persia.
,,	5,474 ,,	Borneo.
Benzine	62,075 ,,	United States.
,,	3,772 ,,	Borneo.
,,	488 ,,	Persia.
Tobacco	128,707 lb.	United States.
,,	2,223 ,,	Australia.
,,	1,120 ,,	United Kingdom.
Beer	22,232 gals.	Australia.
,,	207 ,,	United Kingdom.
,,	144 ,,	Germany.
Drapery	£7,018	Australia.
,,	£10,679	United Kingdom.
,,	£1,195	Japan.
,,	£2,712	China.
,,	£171	Germany.
,,	£198	Fiji.
,,	£1,526	United States.
,,	£220	France.
,,	£725	New Zealand.
Rice	1,233 tons	India.
,,	35 ,,	China.
,,	621 ,,	Burma.
Timber	308,321 S.F.	Australia.
,,	18,720 ,,	New Zealand.
,,	142,963 ,,	United States.
,,	3,617 ,,	Norway.
,,	250 ,,	Denmark.
,,	503 ,,	New Caledonia.

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Commodity.	*Imports.*	*Country of Origin.*
Hardware	£3,474	Australia.
,, ...	£2,048	United Kingdom.
,, ...	£514	United States.
,, ...	£485	New Zealand.
Meats	501,246 lb.	Australia.
,, ...	80,319 ,, ...	New Zealand.
,, ...	13,096 ,, ...	New Caledonia.
,, ...	1,378 ,, ...	China.
,, ...	4,169 ,, ...	United States.
,, ...	6,144 ,, ...	United Kingdom.
Bags and Sacks	37,218 doz.	India.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

Steam communication is maintained between Australia and the Protectorate by Messrs. Burns Philp and Company's mail steamers. The Mataram has called direct from Australia every six weeks during the past year, and, after proceeding through the Group, returned to Australia. Messrs. Burns Philp and Company receive an annual subsidy from the Commonwealth Government, to which subsidy the Protectorate Government contributes an annual sum of £3,000. In return, the Protectorate receives certain abatements in cost of Government passages and freights.

The Marsina of the same Company called every six weeks at Tulgai from the mandated territory of Papua.

Messrs. W. R. Carpenter and Company's vessel Inga has made intermittent voyages to the Protectorate via New Guinea, calling at the Ports of Tulagi and Vanikoro, and returning to Australia.

In addition, direct overseas shipments were made in British, Swedish, and United States steamers during 1929.

Railways and Roads.

There is none in the Protectorate, except that on many plantations where motor-cars are used ribbon tracks of coral have been made which stand up well to the traffic. Native villages are linked up by paths and tracks, varying in quality.

Internal communication is maintained by the regular mail steamers, and occasionally by auxiliary vessels owned by planters and traders. The Government vessel Ranadi is available for inter-island and inter-port communication, and also the s.s. Malanta, owned by Messrs. Burns, Philp and Company, the s.s. Koonookarra, owned by Lever's Pacific Plantations Proprietary Limited, and the motor vessel Durabah owned by Messrs. W. R. Carpenter, (Solomon Islands) Limited.

Postal.

The postal service of the Protectorate, outside the regular itinerary of Messrs. Burns Philp and Company's mail steamers, is carried out in an intermittent fashion through chance auxiliary

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craft owned by traders and recruiters. The chief postal centres are Tulagi, Gizo, Faisi, and Vanikoro. There is a Postmaster in Tulagi, and District Officers throughout the Protectorate act as Postmasters. A money-order service exists with the Commonwealth Government of Australia, through whose agency money can be remitted to various parts of the world. There is also a postal note service.

During the year under review, 20 mails were despatched overseas from Tulagi.

The following are statistics of postal matter handled :—

	Inland.	*Despatched.*	*Received.*
Prepaid letters	11,200	46,976	68,430
Unpaid letters	60	100	400
Post Cards	—	250	700
Printed Matter, Commercial Papers, etc.	150	5,592	67,572
Admitted free	5,000	1,308	3,600
Total	16,410	54,226	140,702
Registered articles (included in above total).	214	1,134	1,170
Ordinary parcels	22	299	2,366

There is no submarine cable or telegraph system in the Protectorate. The Government wireless station maintains communication with the outer world. In addition there are two privately-owned wireless stations in the Group—one at Kokelego (Roviana) in the Gizo District, owned by the Methodist Mission, and the other at Vanikoro in the Santa Cruz District, owned by the Vanikoro Kauri Timber Company. These two stations are sufficiently powerful to communicate with the outer world but, in accordance with the terms of their licences, all their traffic is routed via Tulagi. A telephone system exists in Tulagi, connecting up the various Government offices and certain private houses.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Chief Justice of Fiji, and all other Judges for the time being of the Supreme Court of Fiji, are by virtue of their offices Judicial Commissioners. Deputy Commissioners are appointed by the High Commissioner on behalf of His Majesty. The High Commissioner's Court consists of the High Commissioner, the Judicial Commissioners, and the Deputy Commissioners, and in it is vested all His Majesty's civil and criminal jurisdiction in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

The principal Legal Officer in the Protectorate is the Chief Magistrate, who is also Legal Adviser. He is a Judicial Commissioner.

The Court of a Judicial Commissioner has powers similar to those of the Superior Courts in England, and the Deputy Commissioners have Civil Jurisdiction in Common Law, Equity and Bankruptcy,

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with a limited jurisdiction in Probate, and have a Criminal Jurisdiction in respect of offenders not punishable with seven years penal servitude or upwards. With some exceptions, all decisions of the High Commissioner's Court may be appealed against to the Supreme Court of Fiji.

In addition to other means of preserving order, the High Commissioner has certain special powers for deportation of persons whose proceedings endanger the peace of the Protectorate.

Police and Prisons.

The Police and Prisons Departments are administered by the Officer Commanding the Armed Constabulary. He is assisted by a European Sub-Inspector of Constabulary, and a European Gaoler.

The native personnel of the Armed Constabulary consists of two Sergeant-Majors and 141 other ranks. They are distributed in detachments throughout the Districts.

The discipline of the Force has been good.

The Constabulary are armed with the Lee-Enfield Rifle.

The health of the prisoners, confined in prisons situated in the various Districts, has been good. The discipline of the staff has been satisfactory. The prison buildings are adequate.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The work of this Department has been necessarily curtailed owing to the financial stringency which has been necessary during the year. Several minor works have been carried out and the usual necessary maintenance of buildings. Repairs have been effected to the iron lattice work on the Red Beacon at Tulagi, and the superstructure of the White Beacon was added to, to raise the height to 60 feet above high-water mark, at the request of the Australian Naval Authorities.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The year may be considered satisfactory from a health point of view. The hospital admissions were fewer than for the previous year.

Europeans.

The population of Europeans is 493.

The climate is unfavourable for Europeans on account of its humidity and constant heat, and particularly on account of the prevalence of malaria. There were six European deaths during the year, from the following causes :—malaria three, blackwater fever one, pleurisy one, and accidental one. There was no mortality among the Government officials.

Asiatics.

The health of the Asiatic population was good. There were two deaths among them :—malaria one, and unknown cause one.

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NATIVES.

An epidemic of acute poliomyelitis broke out in May, and spread throughout the islands. The last known case occurred on the 16th October.

Measures for control of the disease were enforced to prevent it spreading. In spite of these precautions, however, 276 cases were reported. Of these, 63 died from the disease.

Measles, which was prevalent in 1928, completely disappeared during the first three months of 1929.

Leprosy is not uncommon in the Protectorate, and 34 lepers have received treatment during the year.

Tuberculosis is common, and is one of the most frequent causes of death. Respiratory diseases, particularly pneumonia, are also a major cause of death among the natives.

The treatment of yaws and hookworm is carried out systematically and intensively by the Rockefeller Assisted Medical Campaign, the Travelling Medical Officer, and subsidized Medical Officers and Missionaries. During the year, 24,576 injections were given to 13,083 natives for yaws, and 18,157 natives received treatment for hookworm. The figures do not include treatment of hookworm and yaws by the subsidized Medical Officers at Su'u and Vanikoro, nor the number of natives treated for hookworm by the subsidized Missions, who, however, gave 2,444 injections for yaws.

SANITARY.

Sanitary work on Tulagi has been carried out by a full-time Sanitary Officer during the year, and the results achieved have been correspondingly good. The oiling of drains and swampy areas has been carried out weekly.

GENERAL.

Tulagi Hospital has wards for European, Asiatic, and native patients. Small native hospitals are maintained at District Headquarters in charge of native dressers working under the supervision of the District Officers. Natives receive free medical treatment. There is also a native hospital at Su'u, South Malaita, and there are subsidized Mission Hospitals in the Gizo District (Methodist Mission), North Malaita (Melanesian Mission), and at Choiseul (Methodist Mission).

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is entirely in the hands of the various mission bodies. For the financial year under review, the sum of £150 was included in the Estimates of Expenditure for technical grants to mission schools. The following grants were made in accordance with the amount of attention devoted to such education :—

	£
South Sea Evangelical Mission	50
Seventh Day Adventist Mission	50
Methodist Mission	50

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X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

During the year, 35 surveys have been carried out, and the last of the Lands Commission surveys has now been performed. A sub-divisional survey of Chinatown has also been made, and the boundaries of Messrs. Lever's Occupation Lease have been demarcated.

XI.—LABOUR.

The staple industry of the Protectorate is the cultivation of coconuts and their subsequent conversion into copra. The industry requires a high labour-strength, about one unit to 10 acres for estates of large size. On smaller estates the unit per acre figure is much higher. The entire labour supply is derived from indigenous natives, the bulk of whom are recruited from the island of Malaita. A native is eligible for employment as a labourer at the age of 16 years, and as a light labourer, performing certain definitely scheduled classes of work, at the age of 14 years. A system of contract is in vogue, the maximum term allowed by law being two years. Minimum wages are fixed by law at 20s. *per mensem*, and 10s. *per mensem* for labourers and light labourers respectively.

For the most part, labourers are recruited at their homes by professional licensed recruiters, who run licensed vessels.

The employer of a native labourer is required by law to feed, clothe, and house the labourer according to certain minimum scales, to provide him with medical attention, and repatriation to his home on the expiration of his term of contract. Should the labourer be accompanied by dependents, the employer is under similar liability towards them. The interests of the labourer are watched by the Native Labour Department, and comprehensive Regulations control the actions of employers and employees alike.

The hours of work which a labourer may be called upon to perform are controlled by definite sections in the Labour Regulations, and a system of " task work " is in vogue, 5½ tasks completing one week's work.

On time-work the labourer may be called upon to work nine hours *per diem* and on task work the task is such that it can be completed in six hours.

The total number of labourers employed throughout the Group during the year was 5,171. The number of natives recruited during 1929 was 2,005.

F. N. ASHLEY,
Resident Commissioner,
British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

31*st March*, 1930.

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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Composition of Pastures. June, 1929. (E.M.B. 18.) 9*d.* (11*d.*).

Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

The Demand for Cheese in London. November, 1929. (E.M.B. 22.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Indian Sunn (or Sann) Hemp. Its Production and Utilization. February, 1930. (E.M.B. 25.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Cocoa. World Production and Trade. May, 1930. (E.M.B. 27.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1929 to May, 1930. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 28.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Biological Control of Insect and Plant Pests. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 29.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927–29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 1*d.*)

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Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 41.] 12s. 0d. (12s. 6d.).

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GIBRALTAR.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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INTRODUCTION.

Geographical.

Gibraltar is a narrow peninsula three miles in length and $\frac{3}{4}$-mile in breadth with a total area of $1\frac{7}{8}$ square miles, situated in latitude 36° 7′ 16″ North and longitude 5° 21′ 13″ West, near the southern extremity of Spain, being joined to the mainland by a low sandy isthmus. It consists of a long high mountain, the ridge of which, from north to south, divides it into two unequal parts. The extreme height of the "Rock," as the mountain is commonly called, is 1,396 feet. The town is built on the western and southern sides, which face the Bay. The northern and eastern faces of the Rock are an inaccessible cliff, forming a series of rugged precipices at the foot of which, on the eastern side, confronting the Mediterranean, stands the small fishing village of Catalan Bay.

Historical.

Gibraltar was known to the ancients as Mons Calpe, one of the Pillars of Hercules, the other being Mount Abyla, or Apes Hill, on the opposite coast of Africa. It was possessed successively by the Phoenicians, the Carthaginians, the Romans, and the Visigoths, but remained uninhabited till the Mohammedan invasion of Spain.

In 711 the Moorish Chief Tarik-Ibn-Zeyad landed on the Rock, and gave it the name of Gibel-Tarik, or Mountain of Tarik, of which

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the name of Gibraltar is a corruption. It remained in Moorish hands until 1309, when it was seized by the Spaniards. In 1333 it was again taken by the Moors, but was wrested from the Moslem dynasty in 1462, and reverted to the dominion of Spain.

In 1704 it was captured by the British forces under Admiral Sir George Rooke, during the War of the Spanish Succession, and was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, renewed by the Treaty of Versailles in 1783. Many attempts have been made to retake Gibraltar, especially during the great siege in 1779-83, when General Elliot (afterwards Lord Heathfield) defended it against the united forces of Spain and France, but all have been unsuccessful and it has remained in British hands since its capture in 1704.

The Government is administered under Letters Patent of the 12th September, 1922, by a Governor aided by an Executive Council composed of four official and three unofficial members. The power of legislation is vested in the Governor, who is also the General Commanding the Garrison.

Climate.

The general climate of Gibraltar is mild and temperate, though somewhat hot and oppressive during the months of July and August. The meteorological record for 1929 shows 71·5° F. as the mean maximum temperature, the highest shade temperature being 91° F. on the 24th July, and the lowest 38° F. on the 5th January. The rainy season is spread over the period from September to May; the annual average rainfall is 35 inches, but in 1929 only 20·48 inches were registered, of which 4·65 inches fell in February.

I. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The coaling trade of the port showed a slight improvement during the early part of the year. This was probably due to the short strike of the men operating the coaling machinery at Oran, which caused a certain number of ships to be deviated to this port. This improvement was unfortunately however not maintained during the latter months of the year. It is proposed to erect coaling machinery at Gibraltar in the near future and it is hoped that this will result in a deduction in charges which will cause more ships to bunker here.

There was once again a slight increase in the number of cruising steamers which called at Gibraltar during the year. The Galleries were taken over from the military authorities during the month of October and are now open to tourists every day of the week (including Sundays) from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. from October to March, and until 5.30 p.m. from April to September. Combined tickets of admission to the Galleries and Moorish Castle, price 2s., are on sale at all hotels, tourist agencies, etc., and at the Passengers' Waiting Room on the Wharf.

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The scheme for the erection of a first-class hotel, to which reference was made in last year's Report, is now well advanced, and it is hoped that building operations will actually commence before August, 1930. A suitable building has been taken over by the Colonial Government from the military authorities for conversion into a museum, and the collection of suitable exhibits is proceeding.

In the middle of 1929, the Government arranged for the printing of an illustrated folder advertising the attractions of Gibraltar as a tourist resort. These folders were distributed by Major W. T. Blake, Ltd., 199, Piccadilly, a firm of travel agents who act as representatives of the Gibraltar Tourist Bureau. The folder has been distributed to tourist agencies throughout Europe and America and copies have also been supplied to the principal hotels, banks, steamship companies, and newspapers in England and North America.

It is hoped that these measures will make the attractions of Gibraltar as a tourist resort better known, and that large numbers of the tourists who pass through *en route* for Spain or Morocoo may thus be induced to break their journey here for a few days.

At the end of January, the Chief Scout, Lieutenant-General Lord Baden Powell, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., accompanied by Lady Baden Powell, the Chief Guide, visited the Colony and inspected the local contingent of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. Contingents from the neighbouring towns of La Linea, Malaga, Ceuta, and Tetuan were also present.

On the 2nd July, H.M.S. *Eagle* arrived at Gibraltar with Comandante Franco and the crew of the Spanish seaplane *Numancia* on board. The *Numancia* had been attempting a flight to South America and had been forced down owing to adverse weather conditions in the neighbourhood of the Azores, where it drifted for seven days before being sighted by H.M.S. *Eagle*. On landing, Comandante Franco and his companions visited Government House where a reception was held and suitable speeches delivered, His Excellency the Governor of Algeciras and other high officials of the Spanish Government being present. Some twelve thousand people from the surrounding district entered Gibraltar during the morning and a dense crowd demonstrated in front of Government House, acclaiming Great Britain. In the evening a banquet was given by the Municipality of Algeciras, at which his Excellency the Governor and a number of British officials were present.

On the 21st October, the Right Honourable T. Shaw, P.C., M.P., Secretary of State for War, accompanied by Mr. C. G. Ammon, Parliamentary and Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, arrived at Gibraltar for a short visit, during which they inspected the principal naval and military establishments.

During the latter part of the year, His Excellency the Governor paid a short visit to the French and Spanish Zones of Morocco. Nothing could exceed the kindness and courtesy with which His Excellency was received in both Zones and, although the time at

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his disposal was very short, he was able to see something of the remarkable progress which has been made by both Powers in their respective Zones during recent years.

On the 7th December, the death of General Sir C. C. Monro, Bart., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., was reported. Sir Charles was Governor of Gibraltar from 1923 to 1928, and the news of his death was received with great regret. He was held in great esteem by all classes of the community and the valuable work which he did during the period of his Governorship will be gratefully remembered.

Vital Statistics and Public Health.

The estimated total civil population at the close of 1929 was 16,799, of whom 15,647 are fixed residents. These figures represent the population between sunset and sunrise, but some 4,500 aliens and 1,500 British subjects resident in the neighbouring Spanish town of La Linea come into Gibraltar daily. The number of births during the year was 388 of which 204 were boys and 184 girls. The birth-rate per 1,000 was 24·79. The births refer to the fixed population only, as under the Aliens Order in Council no alien may give birth in the Colony.

262 deaths were registered, and the crude death-rate was 15·68 per 1,000. Infantile mortality was 46·4 per 1,000, and deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis 1·6 per 1,000. The number of deaths from cancer was 21. The infantile mortality figure is astonishingly low compared with last year's figure of 122·9 and constitutes a record for Gibraltar.

During the year under review the health of Gibraltar has continued to be good. The vital statistics are considered satisfactory and with regard to infectious disease there is nothing of outstanding importance to record. The sanitary work of the Colony is carried out by the City Council, who also have charge of the roads, lighting, water supply, and hygienic measures in dwellings.

II.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure for the last five years have been :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925	162,250	167,267
1926	158,636	147,942
1927	160,031	160,114
1928	164,180	165,993
1929	146,245	165,705

A sum of £15,000 in respect of the appreciation of invested funds is included in the revenue for the year 1928. The 1925 expenditure includes a sum of £11,183 in respect of depreciation of invested funds.

There is no public debt.

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A statement of assets and liabilities on 31st December, 1929, is given below :—

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1929.

Assets.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in Bank and Chest and in the hands of Crown Agents for the Colonies and Sub-Accountant				11,552	8	1
Advances due to Government				212	13	1
Imprests...				957	2	10
Unallocated Stores Suspense Account				2,201	9	4
Investments (at cost) :—						
Surplus Funds	248,698	11	8			
Savings Bank	96,950	11	2			
Note Security Fund	101,201	8	7			
Depreciation Fund of Note Security Fund	2,609	3	1			
Supreme Court (Funds) Account	96,929	4	7			
Unrepresented Estates Account	286	17	5			
				546,675	16	6
				£561,599	9	10

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deposits due by Government :—						
Supreme Court (Funds) Account	97,415	14	4			
Savings Bank	96,179	3	3			
Currency Notes	100,000	0	0			
Sundry Deposits	3,316	17	0			
				296,911	14	7
Drafts and Remittances Account				10,000	0	0
Depreciation Fund of Surplus Funds and Savings Bank Investments				14,480	6	3
Reserve Fund				100,000	0	0
Depreciation Fund of Note Security Fund Investments				3,810	11	8
				425,202	12	6
Balance of Assets in excess of Liabilities				136,396	17	4
				£561,599	9	10

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Currency and Banking.

The legal tender of the Colony is in sterling denominations, and the accounts in Government Departments are so kept, but Spanish currency circulates freely. The fact that a very large proportion of the supply of food-stuffs, etc., is obtained from Spain necessitates payment being made in the currency of that country. Many merchants and traders keep their accounts in pesetas and centimos and dollars and cents.

The rate for conversion of British into Spanish currency is governed by the Stock Exchange at Madrid and telegraphed daily to the banks at Gibraltar. The average for the year was 32 pesetas 80 centimos to the pound sterling.

Colonial Government Currency Notes are in circulation to the value of £100,000. The bulk of these notes are of the new issue, but there are still old notes in circulation to the value of about £3,418. The new notes were issued under the Currency Note Ordinance, 1927, and are of the following values—£5, £1, and 10*s*.

There are four private banks, who have correspondents in all the principal cities of the world and offer every facility for the transaction of banking business, viz. :—

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), Head Office, 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Credit Foncier d'Algerie et de Tunisie, Head Office, 43, Rue Cambon, Paris ; London Branch, 18, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.4.

A. L. Galliano, of Gibraltar.

Messrs. Rugeroni Bros. and Co., of Gibraltar.

III.—TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The staple trade is the supply of coal, fuel oil, stores, and fresh water to shipping, as Gibraltar is pre-eminently a coaling station. A fair amount of business is also carried on in connection with transit cargo to Morocco and Spain.

Statistics of imports and exports (except such as are necessary for revenue purposes) are not kept, the only dutiable goods being wines, spirits, malt liquors, perfumed spirits, motor spirit, and tobacco.

The only industries in Gibraltar are connected with shipping and the manufacture of tobacco. At the foundries and yards situated on the North Front, boats, lighters, and steam launches are built and repaired, and extensive repairs are often carried out to both hulls and machinery of vessels calling here.

There is no land in Gibraltar capable of cultivation.

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IV.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven laws were enacted during the year, four of which have interest other than local :—

Ordinance No. 5.—The Deceased Brother's Widow's Marriage Ordinance, 1929, which was enacted to bring the local law into line with the Imperial legislation on the same subject.

Ordinance No. 7.—The Rule of the Road Ordinance, 1929, which was enacted to bring the rule of the road in Gibraltar into conformity with that of Spain. The majority of motor drivers in Gibraltar drive frequently in Spain and the difference in the rule of the Road gave rise to a number of accidents owing to the confusion caused in the minds of the drivers.

Ordinance No. 9.—The Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement) Amendment Ordinance, 1929, which was enacted to remedy a defect found to exist in most Colonial legislation on the subject.

Ordinance No. 11.—The Revenue (Amendment) Ordinance, 1929, which provided for the imposition of increased duties on tobacco.

V.—EDUCATION.

Under Ordinance No. 7 of 1917, education is compulsory in the case of children between the ages of 5 and 14 years.

Since the year 1921, the Governor has been advised on educational matters by a Board of Education under the chairmanship of the Colonial Secretary.

The Government grant-in-aid per pupil in average attendance in efficient day schools during the school year is £3 10*s.* 0*d.* and the total amount paid for the year ended 31st March, 1930, was £8,188.

Books and equipment are issued to pupils free of charge, and for this purpose a special grant is made to the several school Committees ranging, according to standard, from 2*s.* to 16*s.* for each child appearing on the roll on the last day of the scholastic year. The total amount paid for the year ended 31st March, 1930, was £982.

In addition, the Government paid £544 to the City Council on behalf of the schools for general sanitary purposes, rates, and water, and £324 for rent of certain school premises.

The total cost to the Government in respect of education was, therefore, £10,038 exclusive of a grant of £240 towards handicraft classes.

The payment of " school pence " is voluntary, and the receipts from this source are practically negligible.

There are nine school buildings, containing thirteen Government-aided schools for primary education—eleven Roman Catholic and two Hebrew.

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The Roman Catholic schools are conducted by the Christian Brothers and Nuns of the Order of Loreto, and the Hebrew schools by lay teachers, the various schools being under the direct management of local committees.

The total number of scholars on the registers was 2,689, and 2,334 was the average number in attendance during the year.

The work of the School Attendance Officer, appointed early in 1923, has continued to give good results; 62 attendance orders were issued during the year, and 30 cases were brought before the Police Court, for infringements of the Compulsory Education Ordinance.

Since 1925 this Government has made an annual grant of £240 to the Christian Brothers in respect of wood-work classes which are open to boys of all religious denominations. A special building has been erected, fitted with the machinery and tools requisite for wood and metal work, and all boys taking courses in manual work are taught to make proper drawings of their work in wood or metal. They also receive special training in drawing suitable for those taking up a trade or profession.

During the year under review the Roman Catholic Schools Committee decided to introduce classes in domestic economy at the largest of the elementary girls' schools. The necessary structural alterations were carried out and the services of a highly qualified teacher were obtained. On the 26th November, 1929, the model kitchen was officially opened by His Excellency the Governor, who congratulated the Roman Catholic Schools Committee on their new venture. The girls have taken a great interest in the new classes and it is hoped that many of the Gibraltar girls will take up domestic service and earn money which is now leaving the Colony without circulating here. Even if this hope is not entirely realized, the scheme will at least result in a great improvement in the standard of cooking in the girls' own homes.

Four candidates presented themselves for the annual examination in English for Assistant Teachers. Two of these had qualified the previous year and were taking the examination with a view to obtaining honours. Neither of these candidates was successful, but both who took the examination for the first time qualified.

The annual inspection of the schools in March, 1930, was again carried out by the Resident Inspector as it was decided, for reasons of economy, not to apply for the services of a Board of Education Inspector. The inspection was carried out on the lines of previous inspections by the Visiting Inspector, and the work was found to be on the whole quite satisfactory, all the schools, with one exception receiving the full grant.

Monthly inspections of the children in the schools were carried out by the school nurse, one of the staff nurses attached to the Colonial Hospital, and occasional visits paid by the assistant surgeons.

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Secondary.—There are four secondary schools in the Colony, viz. :—

Line Wall College, for boys, conducted by the Christian Brothers.

Two Convents, for girls, under the Nuns of the Loreto Order.

Brympton, a Church of England school for girls, managed by a local Committee and conducted by the teachers.

In these educational establishments pupils are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually. In addition to the above, there are a number of private schools with about 148 pupils, but the instruction given is mainly of an elementary character.

VI.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Postal.

British and Continental mails are forwarded and received daily by overland mail route—via Spain and France—and there is a daily steamer service in connection with this mail service, between Gibraltar and the Spanish town of Algeciras, for which the Colonial Government pays the Algeciras-Gibraltar Ferry Boats Company, under contract, an annual subsidy of £500.

Correspondence for Egypt and places eastward of Suez is forwarded weekly by Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company steamers and the Orient Line Steamers also carry mails for Port Said, Colombo, and Australia.

Ship mails for Malta, Algiers, and Oran are made up and despatched by merchant steamers on every practicable opportunity, and mails for Morocco are carried by Bland's Line steamers twice a week, and daily via Algeciras.

There is also a parcel post service with the United Kingdom, and parcels may be sent to nearly all the countries in the Postal Union.

Overland mails from Gibraltar reach London and vice versa in about three and a-half days.

Telegraphs.

The Government land lines connecting Gibraltar with the Spanish towns of San Roque, Cadiz, Malaga, and Cordoba are worked by the Eastern Telegraph Company who, under a special agreement, pay £300 annually to the Colonial Government.

The Eastern Telegraph Company have a station at Gibraltar where telegrams are accepted for all parts of the world.

Commercial and private messages for transmission by the Naval Wireless Station to merchant vessels at sea in the neighbourhood are also accepted at the offices of the Eastern Telegraph Company and, similarly, wireless messages received from ships are delivered by that Company.

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Telephones.

There are no telephones under Colonial Government control. A telephone service of the Strowzer Automatic Telephone Exchange type was installed in 1926 for the City Council of Gibraltar by the Peel Conner Telephone Works of Coventry, of which the General Electric Company are the proprietors. This service was inaugurated in October, 1926, and telephonic communication has now been established with the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, and Portugal.

The establishment of this telephone service was authorised in November, 1924, by "The City Council (Telephone) Ordinance, 1924" (No. 7 of 1924), the City Council being guaranteed by the Government against loss on working expenses to a limit of £5,000 for a period of five years.

The local Naval and Military Departments have their own lines which are connected with the City Council exchange.

Roads.

The upkeep of roads is in the hands of the City Council in whom they are vested by law. The length of roads open for traffic is five and a-quarter miles in the City, or North District, four miles in the South District and about four and a-half miles in the North Front and Catalan Bay District.

Roads in the City are narrow; those in the other districts are fairly wide. All are in excellent condition and are suitable for motor traffic.

There are no railways or tramways in Gibraltar.

Shipping.

Owing to its geographical position, Gibraltar is extensively used as a port of call and a coaling station by vessels of every nationality.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered Gibraltar during 1929 :—

Steamers.		*Sailing Vessels.*		*Total.*	
Number.	*Tonnage.*	*Number.*	*Tonnage.*	*Number.*	*Tonnage.*
3,775	8,106,699	1,058	28,678	4,833	8,135,377

As compared with 1928, there was a net increase of 15 in the total number of vessels entering the port, with an increase in tonnage of 1,390,539 tons—a decrease of 282 sailing vessels and an increase of 297 steamers.

The principal lines which call regularly at this Port are :—

Weekly :—

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

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Fortnightly :—

Orient Line, Anchor Line, Moss Line, Ellerman Line, Westcott and Laurance, Power Steamship Company, MacAndrew's Hall Lines, Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line, Lloyd Sabaudo, Oldenburg Portugiesische, The American Levant Line, and Royal Netherlands Steamship Co.

The Rotterdam Lloyd Line started to call fortnightly at the beginning of 1930.

Monthly :—

Cunard Line, France-Amerique Co., Societa Anonima di Navigazione Neptunia, Navigazione Generale Italiana, and Consulich Line.

Occasionally :—

White Star Line, Union-Castle Line, British India Steam Navigation Co., New Zealand Steamship Co., and Elder Dempster Line.

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G. S. FOLLOWS,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

GIBRALTAR,
1*st July*, 1930.

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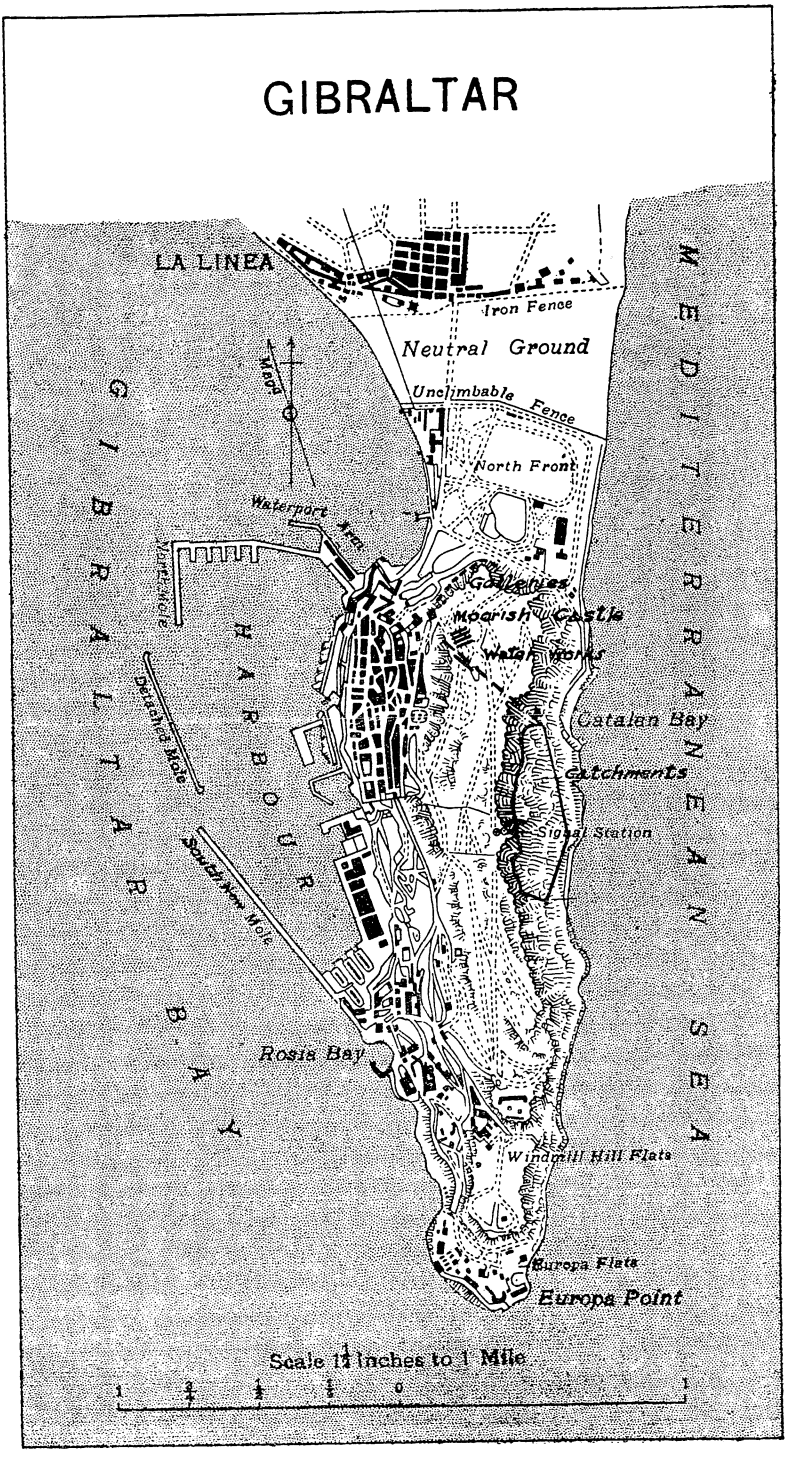

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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NYASALAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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Geography.

The territory comprised in the Nyasaland Protectorate is a strip about 520 miles in length and varying from 50 to 100 miles in width. It lies approximately between latitude S. 9° 45′ and 17° 16′ and longitude E. 33° and 36°. The area is roughly 40,000 square miles or about one-third the area of the British Isles. The most southerly portion of the Protectorate is about 130 miles from the sea as the crow flies.

This strip falls naturally into two divisions: (1) consisting of the western shore of Lake Nyasa, with the high tablelands separating it from the basin of the Luangwa river in Northern Rhodesia, and (2) the region between the watershed of the Zambesi river and Shire river on the west and the Lakes Chiuta and Chilwa and the Ruo river, an affluent of the Shire, on the east, including the mountain systems of the Shire Highlands and Mlanje and a small portion, also mountainous, of the south-eastern coast of Lake Nyasa.

The Protectorate is divided for administrative purposes into four Provinces, the Zomba, Southern, Central, and Northern, each

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of which is in the charge of a Provincial Commissioner. Each Province is sub-divided into districts in the charge of Residents.

The chief towns are Blantyre, with about 300 European inhabitants, Limbe near Blantyre, and Zomba, the seat of the Government.

Historical.

Very little is known of the history of the region now called Nyasaland before the middle of the past century. Jasper Bocarro, a Portuguese, is said to have been the first European to visit Nyasaland; he appears to have travelled early in the 17th century from the Zambesi to the junction of the Ruo and Shire rivers and thence via Lake Shirwa and the Lujenda river to the coast at Mikandani.

The real history of Nyasaland begins with the advent of Dr. Livingstone, who, after experiencing considerable difficulty in ascending the Shire, discovered Lakes Shirwa and Pamalombe, and on the 16th September, 1859, reached the southern shore of Lake Nyasa. Livingstone was closely followed by a mission under Bishop Mackenzie, sent out by the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The mission settled in the Shire Highlands, but, on account of loss of its members by sickness and otherwise, it withdrew in 1862. It was subsequently re-established in 1881 on Lake Nyasa, with headquarters on the island of Likoma, where it still remains.

In 1874, the Livingstonia Mission, named in honour of the great explorer, was founded by the Free Church of Scotland. They were joined in 1876 by the pioneers of the Church of Scotland Mission, who chose the site of the present town of Blantyre and established themselves in the Shire Highlands, while the Free Church applied itself to the evangelization of the inhabitants of the shores of Lake Nyasa.

The missions were followed by the African Lakes Corporation, and in 1883 Captain Foote, R.N., was appointed first British Consul for the territories north of the Zambesi, to reside at Blantyre.

A serious danger had arisen in connection with Arab slave traders who had settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa. At the time of Livingstone's first visit he found the Arabs established in a few places on what is now the Portuguese shore of the Lake and at Kota-Kota on the west side. Arab caravans, trading with the tribes in and beyond the valley of the Luangwa, were in the habit of crossing the Lake on their way to and from the sea coast. Opposition of the new settlers to the slave trade carried on by Arab coastmen and natives alike resulted in a conflict with the Arab traders under Chief Mlozi, settled at the north end of Lake Nyasa, which spread to the Yao chiefs, who were under their influence.

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In the summer of 1889, the late Mr. Johnston (afterwards Sir H. H. Johnston, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.) arrived at Mozambique as His Britannic Majesty's Consul and proceeded to travel in the interior to inquire into the troubles with the Arabs.

Treaties having been concluded with the remaining Makololo chiefs and with the Yaos round Blantyre, Mr. Johnston proceeded up Lake Nyasa, leaving Mr. John Buchanan, Acting-Consul, in charge, who, after the first encounter between Major Serpa Pinto and Mlauri, a powerful Makololo chief, proclaimed on 21st September, 1889, a British Protectorate over the Shire districts.

In 1891, an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. Johnston, Mr. Sharpe (now Sir A. Sharpe, K.C.M.G., C.B.), and other pioneers of British Central Africa, and in the following spring a British Protectorate over the countries adjoining Nyasa was proclaimed. The Protectorate of Nyasaland, under the administration of an Imperial Commissioner, was confined to the regions adjoining the Shire and Lake Nyasa, the remainder of the territory under British influence north of the Zambesi being placed, subject to certain conditions, under the British South Africa Company.

On 22nd February, 1893, the name of the Protectorate was changed to "The British Central Africa Protectorate," but the old name "Nyasaland Protectorate" was revived in October, 1907, by the Order in Council which amended the Constitution.

Climate.

The climate of Nyasaland in its essential feature is similar to that of the rest of Eastern Africa within the tropics.

The climate is necessarily diversified in various districts, owing to variations in latitude, altitude, and general configuration of the terrain, presence or absence of rivers, forests, etc., but, as a large proportion of the Protectorate lies at an altitude of 3,000 feet or more the heat is not generally excessive. The monsoon commences to blow strongly in September, in conjunction with the sun's increase in southerly declination, and the first rains may be expected any time after mid-October. From their commencement to the end of December it is usual to experience violent thunderstorms and heavy precipitation in a few hours, followed by an interval varying from one to fifteen or twenty days of intense heat. With the return of the sun from its southern limit of declination, the thunderstorms diminish in intensity and frequency, and are replaced by steady rain—January, February, and March being usually the wettest months as regards duration of rainfall as well as actual amount. After March the frequency and intensity of rainfall diminish rapidly and from May to September the climate is comparatively cool and dry.

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Languages.

The principal language spoken in the Protectorate is Nyanja, which is understood by most tribes throughout the country and is the official language which all civil servants are expected to learn. Other languages in use in various parts of Nyasaland are Yao, Nguru (which is spoken chiefly by natives who have immigrated from Portuguese East Africa), Tumbuka, Tonga, and Nkonde, the last three practically confined to the Northern Province. Swahili is spoken to a limited extent, chiefly by Mohammedan Yaos.

Currency, etc.

The currency of the Protectorate consists of English coinage, gold, silver, and copper, but there is no note issue and notes of other parts of the Empire are not legal tender.

The weights and measures in use are also the ordinary English units, although there is an increasing tendency to use the short ton of 2,000 lb. The only two banks operating in Nyasaland are the Standard Bank of South Africa and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), formerly the National Bank of South Africa.

I.—GENERAL.

Sir Charles Bowring, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., proceeded on leave on the 30th of May prior to relinquishing office as Governor and Commander-in-Chief. His successor, Mr. T. S. W. Thomas, C.M.G., O.B.E., took the prescribed oaths and assumed the Administration of the Government on the 7th of November.

At the 39th Session of the Legislative Council held on the 29th of April, the Governor referred to the grave concern that had been caused throughout the world by the severe illness of His Majesty the King and to the relief which had been afforded by His Majesty's recovery and gracious message issued to all people.

He announced that the Secretary of State had agreed to the appointment of an additional Unofficial Member of the Council specially to represent the interests of trade and commerce.

He stated that the new Education Bill would be introduced but that he did not propose to proceed beyond the first reading at that Session. His Excellency also stated that he did not propose to proceed further with the Crown Lands Bill until he received a reply from the Secretary of State to his despatch forwarding the report of the debate which took place on the motion for the second reading.

His Excellency opened the 40th Session of the Legislative Council on the 9th of December. He announced that His Majesty's Government had approved the construction of the Zambesi Bridge and of the extension of the railway to Lake Nyasa, and expressed his belief that the liability in respect of interest and sinking fund charges would not in the end impose an undue burden on the resources of the Protectorate if the energies of the country were

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devoted to the wise and systematic development of its resources during the period of construction. On the assumption that the great bulk of produce would be grown in places not in direct contact with the railway, there must be an adequate system of feeder roads capable of standing heavy traffic all through the year in order to make the necessary motor transport easy and effective. His Excellency stated that the Director of Public Works was preparing a detailed scheme of roadwork, to be spread over the next few years, which would meet all reasonable requirements. He also said that the Acting Director of Agriculture was preparing a scheme for the establishment of a complete, up-to-date, agricultural laboratory, which would be built in close proximity to an experimental station so that the research officers might be in a position to test their investigations in the field. The Governor also announced that a Mycologist had been appointed and that he was at that time engaged at Mlanje with Dr. Storey, Senior Mycologist of the Amani Institute, who was studying the diseases which affect the tea industry.

Passing from material development to the question of physical and moral development, His Excellency remarked on the small staff available for medical and sanitary work, with the result that a large percentage of the native population is affected with hook-worm, malaria, or other tropical diseases. He pointed out that it was fruitless to hope for industry and energy in a diseased community, and said that he had asked the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services to prepare a scheme for attacking hook-worm and to advise what could be done if funds were made available for the establishment of more rural dispensaries, for the improvement of town and village water supplies, and for the improvement of sanitation. The Director of Medical and Sanitary Services had also been asked to consider the advisability of establishing an infant clinic in some thickly populated and otherwise suitable centre, to be supervised by a European lady doctor, with possibly the assistance of a European nursing sister.

These, and other schemes, would cost considerable sums and would also entail additional annual expenditure on maintenance. As regards capital expenditure, His Excellency proposed to apply through the Secretary of State for grants under the Colonial Development Act. Such grants might be by way of a loan or of a free grant and he intended to apply for the latter as the revenue of the Protectorate was totally inadequate to its needs, and to reduce the amount available for public services by increasing debt charges would merely retard development. As regards recurrent expenditure, he would look upon the maintenance of development works as the most important service for which the country had to provide.

Turning to education, the Governor stated that he had discussed the question of European education with the acting Director of Education who was considering the matter. He suggested that the native should not be treated as if he were a very undeveloped

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European and that it should not be sufficient to teach him to read, write, and do sums, thus giving to his training a predominantly literary twist which would fit him for nothing except clerical work; but that the real object of education should be to make of a man a useful citizen by training his character.

His Excellency announced that he had not had time since his arrival to do more than read the more important correspondence on the subject of the Crown Lands Bill, but that it was quite clear that the European community was opposed to the Bill as it then stood. As it was essential that he should fully understand the reasons for this opposition before he proceeded further with the Bill, he proposed that the Report of the Select Committee should be formally presented to the Council and that further consideration of the Bill should be postponed.

The year under review was one of depression. Trade generally declined and the prices of the main exports of the Protectorate, tobacco and tea, were low.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure during each of the past five financial years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925-26	322,160	303,205
1926-27	348,326	318,899
1927 (April-December) ...	346,341	266,519
1928	378,123	407,377
1929	372,508	410,688

The public debt of the Protectorate as at the 31st of December, 1929, was as follows :—

Loan.	*Total Loan received.*	*Interest and Annuity Charges paid in 1929.*	*Unredeemed balances.*
Shire Highlands Railway :—	£	£	£
Subsidy Lands	180,800	8,371	145,843
East African Protectorates :—			
Loan 1915, 4 per cent.	12,000	2,890	41,540
Loan 1915, 6 per cent.	33,348		
Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee and Annuity Loans 1921-27 :—			
January Issues (Plus interest 1927, £9,660)	195,000	13,650	185,020
March Issues	210,550	14,739	174,750
July Issues	125,000	8,750	119,875
June Issues	45,000	3,150	43,582
December Issues	45,000	3,150	43,575
Totals...	£846,698	£54,700	£754,185

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Trade conditions were again bad and the revenue was some £29,000 below the estimate.

Certain amendments were made in the Customs Schedule, estimated to bring in an additional £14,000 in a full year.

The items principally affected were :—

	Additional Revenue. £
Matches	3,200
Salt	1,645
Cotton Manufactures	5,050
Beads	560
Wines and Spirits	1,187

The duty on provisions was reduced at an estimated cost to revenue of £2,000 for a whole year.

Under the Native Hut and Poll Tax Ordinance, all widows were exempted from the tax. This would result in a loss of about £2,000 a year.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

Cotton.—Although the European acreage return for 1929 shows a slight increase on that of 1928, there was a reduction in lint, from 52 tons in 1928 to 37 tons in 1929. There was, however, a very marked increase in the native production, good as it was in 1928, the figures in terms of seed cotton being 3,505 tons in 1929 as against 2,486 tons in the previous year. The increase is due largely to excellent climatic conditions on the Lower River, where the bulk of the native crop is produced, though credit must be given to the propaganda work of the District Commissioners, the agricultural staff, and the British Cotton Growing Association. It should be noted that strains on which the research staff of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation have been working are not yet in general cultivation, and the 3,000 tons produced on the Lower River was from the strain that has been in cultivation since 1913.

Tobacco.—The European acreage was approximately 3,000 less than in 1928, and climatic conditions were not favourable over the greater part of the Shire Highlands, in consequence of which both yield and quality was below normal, the total crop being 2,289 tons, as against 4,068 tons in 1928.

The bulk of the native tobacco crop is produced in the Central Province, where climatic conditions are decidedly different, and the abnormal character of the January-April rains was as beneficial in this area as they proved injurious in the Shire Highlands. The total native grown crop was 3,881 tons as against 2,414 tons in 1928.

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There was an increase in the number of native growers from 34,761 in the previous season to 47,578, and the increase occurred in all provinces. The quality and the yield was, however, far superior in the Central Province. In this area in which the Native Tobacco Board's efforts are concentrated an innovation which proved most successful was the concentration of licensed buyers at eight buying stations, and the inspection by officers of the Board of all tobacco offered for sale.

Tea.—There is a steady increase in the area, the 1929 acreage being 8,866 as against 7,596 in the previous year, whilst the yield was raised from 628 tons to 778 tons. The reduced prices obtained seem to have encouraged more and more attention being given to the various phases of cultivation and manufacture, in order to effect the most economical production.

Sisal.—There is a slightly increased acreage, and the actual production increased from 1,179 tons in 1928 to 1,230 tons in 1929.

Coffee.—There is a slight increase in acreage—from 1,281 to 1,331, whilst the production was raised from 33 tons to 57 tons.

The exports and local values of the five principal crops during the past five years are shown in the following table :—

	1925		1926		1927		1928		1929	
	Tons.	£	*Tons.*	£	*Tons.*	£	*Tons.*	£	*Tons.*	£
Tobacco	3,088	345,871	4,081	457,122	6,905	780,964	5,193	496,561	5,400	478,060
Cotton ...	1,023	96,245	1,377	93,245	826	45,834	797	58,264	947	62,660
Sisal ...	785	19,388	529	16,799	801	24,428	1,162	29,814	1,200	34,464
Tea ...	516	64,242	528	62,675	522	56,640	637	73,599	784	74,382
Coffee ...	9	768	25	2,174	16	1,203	21	1,542	44	3,239

Veterinary.

Trypanosomiasis and African Coast Fever were the main causes of losses in cattle during the year. The former disease was responsible for greater losses than during the previous twelve months, serious outbreaks having been recorded in the Lower Shire area and also in the more northern parts of the Central Province. The position as far as the Northern Province is concerned remains about the same.

African Coast Fever (*theileria parva* infection) was very severe in the Dedza District during the period under review. Additional tanks are being constructed in that District. The outlook here is, however, more hopeful as the native cattle-owners are becoming more accustomed to and less prejudiced against dipping, but the position will require special attention for several years to come.

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Elsewhere the position remains the same and little improvement can be expected in the Northern Province until dipping on a large scale can be undertaken.

Redwater Fever (*babesia bigeminum* infection) is a disease which has been extremely rarely met with in Nyasaland, but *theileria mutans*, one of a group of organisms closely allied to *theileria parva*, has been somewhat more frequently met with, especially in young animals. It is in particular during the dry season, when grazing becomes scarce and the natural resistance on the part of the animal to the pathogenic effect of the causal organism is in consequence lowered, that *theileria mutans* infection is much in evidence.

Infestation of livestock with intestinal parasites is still of common occurrence. This is a condition which is now generally recognized by European stock-owners and, as a consequence, systematic dosing of animals is now more or less generally resorted to. In native-owned herds, however, the condition continues to be a grave factor in retarding the development of stock and, where not the direct cause of mortality, it is frequently a contributory cause. It is hoped that in the near future means will be available for the adoption of measures to combat this condition in the native areas.

No cases of anthrax or blackquarter were recorded during the period under review.

Demodectic (follicular) mange has been practically stamped out in the Southern and Zomba Provinces; although cases are still met with in the native areas.

The increased incidence of the disease rabies, especially in native-owned dogs, is a matter which has given cause for concern, and it appears highly desirable that further and more adequate legislation for the prevention of the disease be provided.

There are indications that European stock-owners are taking more interest in their herds and it would appear likely that the importation of further pure-bred bulls will follow.

There has been a more or less satisfactory increase in native-owned cattle.

Forestry.

The constitution of forest reserves continues to occupy an important place in the work of the Forestry Department and although the majority of the main catchment areas have now been put under reservation, a careful study of water supplies is to be made in each district so that further reservation proposals may be put forward where considered necessary or advisable. Extensive reconnaissance throughout the Protectorate has revealed that forest tracts of a sufficiently good quality to justify reservation solely for the object of timber production are scarce and very small in extent. During the year one new forest reserve of 26 square miles was constituted, one reserve was reconstituted, and two reserves were reduced in

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area. Proposals were also put forward and were under consideration for the constitution of five new reserves, and for reducing the areas of two constituted reserves so as to free them of villages and settlements.

In the management of the forests it is only possible at present to undertake systematic exploitation and sylvicultural operations in a few reserves, because the majority are too far removed from markets and are too poor in quality from the timber point of view to justify, for the time being, measures other than those of protection. Sylvicultural observations and experiments, however, are being extended as much as possible with the object of ascertaining the extent to which various types of forest can be improved, both in quality and in natural regeneration, by operations such as complete fire-protection, early grass-burning, and improvement-fellings. Systematic trial plantings of selected indigenous and exotic species are being continued, and extended to as many localities as possible, in order to ascertain the best species for afforestation purposes under varying climatic and other local conditions. In addition, planting was also undertaken in connection with afforestation schemes, in forest reserves, at Limbe, Zomba, Mlanje, and Dedza.

There were 477 convictions under the Forest Ordinance during the year, compared with 1,213 in 1928.

Departmental exploitation of cypress blocks in the Mlanje Mountain Reserve was continued throughout the year and some stocks of sawn timber, surplus to the requirements of the Public Works Department, were sold to the public. Much of the timber (other than poles and firewood) used by the non-native population is still being derived from river-bank trees both on private estates and on crown lands, and although the sales from the latter are almost entirely limited to fallen and dead trees, it is not known to what extent restrictions are being applied to the cutting on freehold estates. Even with the strictest conservation measures, it is certain that river banks cannot be relied on to any great extent as a source of supply for meeting future timber demands.

Timber and firewood were sold to the public from Government plantations and considerable quantities were supplied free of charge to the Public Works and other Government departments.

The total cash revenue for the year was £3,549, which shows a decrease of £1,186 on the figure for 1928. £1,177 of this decrease represents reduced sales of firewood from Crown lands, due to coal taking the place of firewood on the locomotives of the Shire Highlands Railway.

A few further "village forest areas" were allocated during the year and a few small village plantations were formed, plants being obtained free of charge from departmental nurseries specially maintained for the purpose. It seems evident that little progress in the

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scheme is possible until native organizations are developed which would be capable of taking on the responsibility of seeing that necessary works are carried out for the proper protection and management of the areas.

Short courses of instruction for native foresters and selected forest guards were held at centres in the southern and northern forest divisions.

Dr. J. Burtt Davy, M.A., Ph.D., Systematic Botanist on the staff of the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford, visited the Protectorate for the purpose of investigating the forest flora, and he spent the whole of September visiting various types of forest in the Central, Zomba, and Southern Provinces. A very large number of herbarium specimens were collected by him, and his identifications would be a valuable contribution towards the elucidation of the Protectorate's forest flora. In order to obtain flowering material of various species, 164 specimens were collected later in the year and were sent to the Imperial Forestry Institute for determination.

Advice on forestry matters was given to the public whenever asked for, either by correspondence, interview or by personal inspection. Some field work was carried out by the Forest Officer, Southern Division, for the Imperial Tobacco Company in connection with the formation of plans for the future management of their eucalyptus plantations.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The continued dullness of the tobacco market and the fall in market prices of other important products detrimentally affected trade, with the result that the volume of trade decreased by £240,723, equal to 13.6 per cent., when compared with the trade volume of 1928.

Adverse rains considerably curtailed the yield of European grown tobacco; a crop which usually finds a local cash market. Imports for European consumption, more particularly those of a non-essential character, consequently were fewer. There were also decreased imports of railway rolling stock, commercial lorries, iron and steel manufactures and machinery.

The distribution of record sums of money in the purchase of native grown tobacco and cotton was a redeeming feature of the year's trade. Upwards of £170,000 were circulated in this manner. Bazaar trade in consequence did not suffer so severely from the general depression as, otherwise, might have been the case.

The demand for cotton piece-goods manufactures appears to be undergoing a degree of revival, if the increased yardage imported during the year is an indication. Bicycles, sewing machines, and cheap hardware continue much in favour with the native population.

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Import trade incidence has changed appreciably since 1928. In that year goods imported for European consumption amounted to 57 per cent. of the total value, for Indian consumption 5 per cent., and for native consumption 38 per cent. For the year just ended the percentages were as follows :—European 52, Indian 4.6, and native 43.4.

The volume of trade, domestic imports and exports (excluding Government imports) and goods in transit, is shown below for each of the last five years :—

Year.	*Volume of Trade.* £
1925	1,294,300
1926	1,637,729
1927	2,206,438
1928	1,766,742
1929	1,526,019

As compared with 1928, the trade volume of the year may be analysed as under :—

	1929 £	1928 £	*Decrease.* £
Imports	743,540	869,463	125,923
Exports	625,480	706,757	81,277
Transit inwards	77,495	93,313	15,818
Transit outwards	79,504	97,209	17,705
	£1,526,019	£1,766,742	£240,723

The balance of trade favoured imports by £118,060.

Food, drink, and tobacco imports, generally, declined by £5,372, equal to 7.6 per cent. when compared with similar imports of a year ago. Salt imports increased by 25,566 cwt. and £4,831 (69.3 per cent.), and sugar by 2,073 cwt. and £1,024 (14.7 per cent.). Decreases are shown against ghee by 229 cwt. and £1,251 (44.9 per cent.) provisions by 1,025 cwt. and £2,867 (13.7 per cent.), spirits by 1,666 pf. gallons and £2,816 (22.6 per cent.) and cigarettes by 20 cwt. and £1,502 (33.2 per cent.).

Importations of manufactured articles were less by £115,310, equal to 15.7 per cent., when compared with the previous year's imports. Agricultural machinery and implements improved by 1,237 cwt. and £2,784 (22.8 per cent.), cotton manufactures by £1,962 (0.7 per cent), and petrol by 60,138 gallons and £5,300 (15.1 per cent.). The decreased importations were railway rolling stock and material by 98,266 cwt. and £49,413 (84.8 per cent.), vehicles and parts by £20,945 (24.9 per cent.), iron and steel by 20,941 cwt. and £25,000 (46.1 per cent.), and soap by 1,118 cwt. and £2,131 (22.1 per cent.).

Touring motor-cars, with a total import of 106 (54 from the United Kingdom) were fewer by 22 and commercial lorries, with a

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total of 55, were less by 33. Cotton piece-goods, with a total import quantity of 9,415,048 lineal yards, were better by 1,224,608 yards.

Direct imports from the United Kingdom have fallen in 15 years from 75 per cent. of the total to 36.28 per cent., whilst trade with foreign countries has increased during the same period from 18.5 per cent. to 41.42 per cent. Imports from Germany increased by 2.1 per cent. and those from Japan by 1.9 per cent.

During the last five years direct cotton manufacture imports from the United Kingdom have declined from 42 per cent. to 15.6 per cent. of the whole, whereas such imports from foreign sources have risen, during the same period, from 22.8 per cent. to 53.1 per cent. Cotton manufactures from other parts of the Empire have decreased in five years from 35.2 per cent. to 31.3 per cent.

India contributed 13.5 per cent. of the Protectorate's import trade—mainly cotton manufactures. South Africa shipped 5.6 per cent. and Southern Rhodesia 1.9 per cent. Of the foreign countries Portuguese East Africa supplied 16.2 per cent. of the total, chiefly motor spirit, paraffin, cotton manufactures, salt, sugar, and coal; Germany shipped cotton manufactures, hoes, and hardware to the extent of 10.5 per cent. of the total imports; the United States of America supplied 4.3 per cent., cotton goods; Japan 3.4 per cent., cotton goods, and Holland 2.5 per cent., cotton blankets and piece-goods, beads, etc.

The allocation of direct consignments of domestic trade imports for each of the last five years, is given in the statement below :—

Year.	*United Kingdom.*		*British Possessions.*		*Foreign Countries.*	
	£	%	£	%	£	%
1925 ...	295,844	50·0	139,325	23·5	156,482	26·5
1926 ...	353,334	44·66	163,923	20·73	273,797	34·61
1927 ...	410,659	43·76	211,065	22·49	316,737	33·75
1928 ...	343,383	39·49	175,557	20·19	350,523	40·32
1929 ...	269,703	36·28	165,808	22·29	308,029	41·42

Continued inactivity of the tobacco market again restricted European production and adverse rains late in the season reduced the output of that under cultivation. Native acreages under tobacco were in excess of last year and, except in one or two districts, were unaffected by injurious rains. The European yield, therefore, was considerably below the average and native production much above. Of the 4,616 tons shipment weight exported native crops contributed 2,900 tons, equal to 62.8 per cent., whereas in 1928 the native grown proportion was 28.8 per cent. (1,500 tons out of 5,193).

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Stabilized prices, guaranteed at the time of the seed issue, encouraged natives to take a keener interest in cotton growing. This resulted in an export for the year of 5,304 bales as compared with 4,464 bales in 1928, an increase equal to 18.8 per cent. Besides this there was a carry over of 1,120 bales as against 560 bales brought forward from 1928. Natives produced 98 per cent. of the crop. Exports of cotton seed weighed 863 tons.

Tea exports improved by 146½ tons (23 per cent.), being 783½ tons as against 637 tons shipped during the previous year, and sisal, with an export weight of 1,200 tons, increased by 38½ tons, equal to 3.3 per cent.

The total exports of the Protectorate weighed 10,617 tons and were valued at £625,480, as compared with 8,962 tons valued at £706,757 in 1928, an increase in weight of 18.48 per cent., but a value decrease of 11.5 per cent.

Of the total domestic products exported the United Kingdom took 96 per cent. by weight and 99.31 per cent. by value. Exports to other countries were negligible.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

Except for the steamers of the British India Line which maintain a regular mail service there are no fixed sailing dates from Beira, and passengers are often kept waiting some days at that port awaiting the departure of the ship on which they are booked. The voyage from England to Beira takes about 30 days by mail steamer and from five to six weeks by other vessels.

Railways.

There are three separate railway systems to be passed over on the journey from Beira to Blantyre, although they are all under one management. These are the Trans-Zambesi Railway from Beira to Murraca on the south of the Zambesi. Passengers and cargoes cross the river by a ferry-steamer, for as yet there is no bridge. From Chindio, opposite Murraca, the Central African railway runs to Port Herald, and the Shire Highlands Railway continues from the latter place, the port of entry into the Protectorate, to Blantyre. The journey normally occupies about 24 hours, passengers sleeping on the train.

Roads.

Road development continued in accordance with a revised programme for expenditure of the balance of £55,000 advanced under the East African Guaranteed Loan.

Advices that the construction of the Zambesi Bridge and the extension of the railway to the Lake were to be proceeded with modified the programme to some extent and materially affected proposals for further expenditure from Loan funds by curtailment

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of improvement of roads that would compete with the railway, and by augmenting the expenditure on existing and new roads to serve as feeders to the railway and to the Lake ports.

Considerable progress was made in the replacement of temporary bridging by permanent reinforced concrete structures, notably on the Blantyre-Mwanza road, leading to Tete and Salisbury (Southern Rhodesia), the Zomba-Liwonde-Dedza-Lilongwe-Fort Manning road, leading to Fort Jameson (Northern Rhodesia), the Fort Johnston-Namwera-Kawinga road, the Zomba-Fort Lister road, and the Mlanje-Palombe road.

The replacement of a light semi-permanent bridge across the Tuchila river on the Luchenza-Mlanje road by a standard 100 ft. steel span, with brick arched approaches, suitable for 10 ton loads was commenced and sites for bridges for the same standard of loading were selected at the Ruo and Likabula rivers on the same road.

A similar 100 ft. steel bridge to that at the Tuchila (but with approach spans of reinforced concrete on rolled steel beams) was erected and opened for traffic at Ngara, where the Great North road, between Lilongwe and Kasungu, crosses the Bua river.

The Balakas-Fort Johnston road was completed to a preliminary standard of construction and opened to dry-weather traffic. With regard to maintenance work, this in general gave satisfaction with the exception of the road from Ncheu to Blantyre via Matope, and certain roads in the cotton-growing areas.

The former carried traffic from the Lilongwe native tobacco-producing district, which was estimated at some 6,000 tons, in heavy lorries, and became unuseable, in comfort, by touring cars. As rail-head for this traffic will be at Balakas on the opening of the railway extension, expenditure on permanent improvement of the road, beyond what is necessary for light traffic, is not justified.

As regards the cotton roads, it is more difficult than elsewhere to procure the necessary labour for thorough maintenance work, and the conditions of soil and drainage are less favourable than in the case of the main road system; moreover the transport is confined to a short period only during the year, and lorries are used which are ill-adapted to the special conditions which obtain. A method of constructing drifts across the sandy river beds using steel sleepers and wire ropes was devised which, if successful, will be generally applied on these roads, and should, together with other measures of improvement, eliminate the chief causes of complaint.

In no case has it been reported that transport of any produce has been prevented, or unduly delayed, owing to unsatisfactory road conditions.

Postal.

There was a slight decrease in the total number of items carried by mail as compared with 1928, but the decrease is not alarming.

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The number of articles dealt with postally was 2,373,273 as compared with 2,440,000. Local letters decreased by 94,918 items. Letters to and from Great Britain have fallen in number but traffic from other countries has increased considerably. Parcels show an increase of 1,363.

C.O.D. parcels fell off during the year.

Money orders have increased while postal orders have slightly decreased both in number and value.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The actual number of telegrams dealt with has increased to 87,552 owing mainly to increased number of transmissions necessitated by the inability of some stations to work over long sections of line on account of adverse weather conditions. The revenue has decreased owing to the withdrawal of "beam" traffic for Tanganyika Territory and Kenya and Uganda. A further 60 miles of telegraph line was constructed during the year.

A trunk telephone service has been established between Zomba, Blantyre, and Limbe and is working satisfactorily. Calls passed amount to 32,886 local and 3,236 trunk.

There was no development in wireless telegraphy during the year.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The Police Force consists of 14 European Officers, two European Assistant Inspectors, and 521 African ranks. The cost of the Department for 1929 was £18,910.

Crime.

Crime generally in the settled areas of the Southern and Zomba Provinces has not shown the same tendency to increase as in the years immediately following the War, although cases of burglary and housebreaking were more prevalent than the previous years. The total number of offences reported was 2,392 of which 351 were offences against the person and 1,026 against property, resulting in the convictions of 39 Europeans, 47 Asiatics, and 1,676 Africans.

There is little serious crime in the districts not affected by the settlement of non-natives.

Prisons.

The established prisons of the Protectorate consist of a Central Prison at Zomba for the detention of European, Asiatic, and long-sentence and recidivist African prisoners, with 19 District prisons situated at the headquarter stations in each District, for the detention of short-sentence prisoners.

The staff consists of a Chief Inspector of Prisons, Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent, and 139 African warders and

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wardresses. The European officers are in charge of the Central Prison, and District prisons are under the supervision of District Administrative or Police Officers.

The total number of persons committed to the prisons during 1929 was 31,163, of whom three were imprisoned for debt, 726 were placed in custody pending trial and 2,434 sentenced to penal imprisonment, including five capital sentences.

The cost of the Prison Department for 1929 was £5,649.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The following table gives the expenditure under the various heads for 1929 compared with that for the previous year :—

	1928.	1929.
	£	£
Public Works Department	16,247	18,081
Public Works Annually Recurrent ...	15,651	16,424
Public Works Extraordinary	13,840	9,997
Loan	19,466	21,943
	£65,204	£66,445
Total increase		£1,241

Apart from ordinary maintenance and improvement of buildings, roads, etc., the most important works undertaken during the year were as follows :—

Buildings Completed.

Government House, Zomba; Quarters for Comptroller of Customs, Limbe; Assistant Director of Education and Assistant Auditor, Zomba; Quarters for Nursing Sisters at the European Hospitals, Blantyre and Zomba; Post Office Extension, Blantyre; Native Hospital, Dedza.

Buildings Commenced and in Progress.

Bacteriological Laboratory, and Quarters for Bacteriologist, Zomba; Quarters for Nursing Staff, Native Hospital, Zomba (these were let to contract); Magistrate's Court, Additional Office for Police, and Office for Forest Officer, Limbe; New Gallery for King's African Rifles Range, Zomba; Rifle Range for Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve, Zomba.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The population of the Protectorate at the end of 1929 was estimated at 1,936 Europeans, 1,117 Asiatics, and 1,356,945 Natives.

During the year 1929 there were 198 Europeans admitted to the Government hospitals as compared with 147 during 1928.

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Six deaths were recorded; two from malaria, two from arteriosclerosis, one from appendicitis, and one from accidental injury. This number only represents deaths recorded at the Government hospitals; the figure for the whole Protectorate was 16.

The European out-patients treated at the Government hospitals numbered 897 cases as compared with 652 in 1928. There were 186 cases of malaria (127 in 1928), infections of the air-passages 130 (90 in 1928), influenza 35 (50 in 1928), diarrhoea and enteritis 66 (55 in 1928).

Regarding the native population, 3,438 were admitted to the Government hospitals as in-patients, compared with 3,781 in 1928, whilst 194,464 were treated as out-patients, compared with 168,181 in 1928.

The prevailing disabilities were affections of the skin, 48,105; diseases of the digestive system, 38,509; affections of the respiratory system, 31,780; injuries, 28,734; epidemic and infectious diseases, 14,687. Amongst the skin diseases ulcers were the chief affliction and no less than 26,557 cases were recorded; this represents nearly one person in fifty of the total native population attending a Government dispensary with an ulcer, not to mention the number who are treated at mission hospitals or at estate dispensaries. This is a larger number than that recorded last year, but it does not mean that ulcers are increasing; in fact there is reason to suppose that the severe type of ulcer is much less frequent than it was a few years ago. Natives are beginning to realize that early attention to small cuts and abrasions and to commencing ulcers will save them weeks of misery, and thousands are now coming to the dispensaries for early treatment. There are very few employers of labour who do not keep dressings and simple medicines for the treatment of their employees, and by so doing they must in many cases prevent a serious illness, particularly in the case of ulcer.

Of scabies there were 10,531 cases reported and of eczema 4,193. No doubt many of the latter were cases of long-standing scabies which were not recognized as such.

Turning to diseases of the digestive system, one finds that of the 38,509 cases recorded, 15,506 were constipation. In spite of the simple primitive life led by the native, he appears to suffer from this common complaint as often as his civilized white brother. Diarrhoea and enteritis accounted for 7,047 cases, in most cases due to this primitive life without sanitation. Hookworm was responsible for 3,182 cases as against 2,509 in 1928. Carbon tetrachloride with oil of chenopodium is issued free to employers of labour and to missionary workers for the treatment of hookworm, and many natives now realize the benefit of treatment.

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It is often thought that the African is blessed with unusually good teeth, but 5,329 came for treatment of caries or pyorrhoea. This number represents a very small proportion of those who require treatment. To give proper dental treatment to all the natives who require it is at present practically impossible. Considering the state of their teeth it is surprising that only 2,674 came to have their dyspepsia treated.

Of the 31,780 cases of respiratory affections, bronchitis, and "colds on the chest" numbered 23,105, and pneumonia 1,028.

The injuries consisted mostly of minor accidents, cuts, bruises, abrasions, and sprains; some 432 were due to attacks by animals such as lions and crocodiles, etc., and 60 to snake-bite.

Smallpox, which broke out about a year ago, has been present in the northern part of the Protectorate all the year. Many of the cases were of a mild type—alastrim—but others were severe. During the year, 1,092 cases were reported, with 43 deaths.

Of the other epidemic or infectious diseases malaria numbered 7,085 cases, influenza 1,374, syphilis 1,049, yaws 1,705.

Of the recorded deaths amongst the native population, that is of the 116 who died in hospitals, 22 were due to accidental injuries, 18 to pneumonia, 8 to malaria, 6 to diarrhoea and enteritis, 4 to hookworm, whilst there were under three deaths from any other single disease.

IX.—EDUCATION.

The appointment of a successor to the late Director of Education was not made until the end of the year. He is expected to arrive early in 1930.

The Assistant Director of Education acted as Director during the year and as there is no Director inspectorate, tours of inspection were necessarily limited by the impossibility of long absences from headquarters.

Native Education.—The new Government Jeanes Training Centre was opened in May with 23 African teachers attending. These student-teachers represented 10 missionary societies. It is hoped that the Jeanes teacher, when trained and working in the districts, will be a powerful agent in the process of improving the standard of the village elementary schools—an urgent need.

The Carnegie Corporation has voted a grant of £1,000 per year for five years towards the upkeep of the Jeanes Training Centre.

The new Education Bill passed its first reading at the May session of Legislative Council, but as further amendments had been suggested from various quarters and approved by the Board of Education it was returned together with these to the Secretary of State for his consideration.

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Missions are paying increased attention to systematized teacher training, and this is evident in the improvement in the answer papers at the Certificate Examinations. It is being more and more realized that training in recognized normal institutions is essential, and the " tabloid " courses of a few weeks, given at intervals during vacations, hitherto common are falling into disfavour.

The total number of Certificated African Teachers at the end of the year was :—

	Males.	*Females.*
Honorary	193	15
Third Grade	806	18
Second Grade	138	—
First Grade	9	—

Vocational.—Carpenters and builders are trained chiefly by the Livingstonia, Church of Scotland Mission, and White Fathers' Missions, and also, to some extent, at the Dutch Reformed Church Mission at Mkhoma, and at the Universities Mission to Central Africa headquarters on Likoma Island.

Printers are trained by the Livingstonia, Church of Scotland and Dutch Reformed Church Missions, and by the Universities Mission to Central Africa. The training of Agricultural Demonstrators is carried on at Livingstonia, Blantyre, and Mkhoma.

Medical Assistants are trained in accordance with the syllabus laid down by the Medical Department at Livingstonia and Blantyre. At the end of the year the names of nine Africans trained by these missions appeared on the Medical Sub-register of the Protectorate.

Other missions paying considerable attention to the training of hospital dressers, nurses, and midwives are the Universities Mission to Central Africa, Dutch Reformed Church Mission, White Fathers' Mission, and Seventh Day Adventists Mission.

Female Education.—Native and half-caste girls attend most mission primary schools together with boys but are generally very irregular in attendance. They are frequently kept at home to assist their mothers in domestic duties and cultivation.

Vocational training, including domestic subjects and handwork, is given at all mission stations. The Dutch Reformed Church Mission has always placed considerable importance on its girls " homes " where, in addition to the literary subjects, instruction is given in such practical subjects as sewing, weaving, basketry, mat-making, soap-making, cookery, &c.

The Universities Mission to Central Africa has a large staff of fully-qualified European lady teachers employed in the training of girls, and the Livingstonia and Church of Scotland Missions devote special attention to female education, both literary and vocational, as also do the Sisters of the two Roman Catholic missions.

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Government Schools.—Two Government primary schools were opened during the year in Muhammedan areas in the Yao country.

Grants-in-aid of Native Education amounting to £8,360 were distributed to missionary societies during the year.

European Education.—The problem of European education was in evidence throughout the year. The main difficulty is in Blantyre, where the facilities provided by the Sunnyside Private School are considered inadequate. A proposal was made that Government should erect buildings for an elementary school for the municipality and guarantee it against loss up to a maximum of £800 per annum. As this proposal did not meet with the approval of the Secretary of State, recourse was made to increasing the grant-in-aid paid to the proprietor of the Sunnyside School to enable him to carry on.

Grants-in-aid were paid as follows :—

	£
Sunnyside School	467
Limbe Convent	210
Zomba Infants' School	60
Dutch Reformed Church Mission School	30

It is hoped to settle the question of European education satisfactorily early in 1930.

It is estimated that there were at the end of the year approximately 300 European children in the Protectorate. One hundred and ninety or so of these were still under seven years of age, at least 50 per cent. of this number being infants still much below school age. Probably as many children of parents resident in Nyasaland are being educated in Europe, South Africa, and Southern Rhodesia as are at school in the Protectorate. The prevailing opinion among parents favours sending children to the homeland when they reach eight or nine years of age on account of the climatic and other factors. This is endorsed by medical opinion, but financial considerations, unfortunately, in a great many cases, prevent parents from sending their children out of the country to be educated.

The enrolment at the four private elementary schools during 1929 was :—

	Boys.	*Girls.*
Sunnyside School	14	16
Limbe Convent	22	24
Zomba School	4	3
D.R.C.M. School	4	3

Indian.—There are, as yet, no special facilities given for the education of Indian children. A number of these attend native schools.

Half-caste.—Half-caste children are welcomed at all native schools and certain missions pay particular attention to their education, primary and vocational, and to their moral welfare.

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X.—LABOUR.

In March a Native Labour Census was taken for the first time. The following table shows the numbers of natives in the employment of Europeans and Asiatics on the 27th March, and includes those working for Government on that date :—

Skilled labourers (including clerks, mechanics, etc.).	*Unskilled labourers (including carriers, cultivators, etc.).*	*Domestic Servants.*	*Totals.*
12,082	70,201	5,735	88,018

Summarized according to wages earned, the results were :—

Under 6s. a month.	*From 6s. to 20s.*	*Over 20s.*	*Totals.*
23,950	61,073	2,995	88,018

These figures, while of interest, give an inadequate idea of the labour force of the country. They omit, for instance, natives working for others or on their own account as fishermen, hawkers, mat and basket makers, and the host of other employments of village communities.

For example, some 35,000 natives were engaged in growing cotton for sale during the season and nearly 48,000 were registered as tobacco growers. In addition, any number between 30,000 and 60,000 are working outside the Protectorate, chiefly in the Rhodesias and the Union of South Africa.

It is proposed to take a similar census each January and August, being the busy and slack seasons, respectively, and the results should give a useful indication of the economic conditions of the country and, in time, it may be possible to include in the census other particulars than the mere numbers of natives employed.

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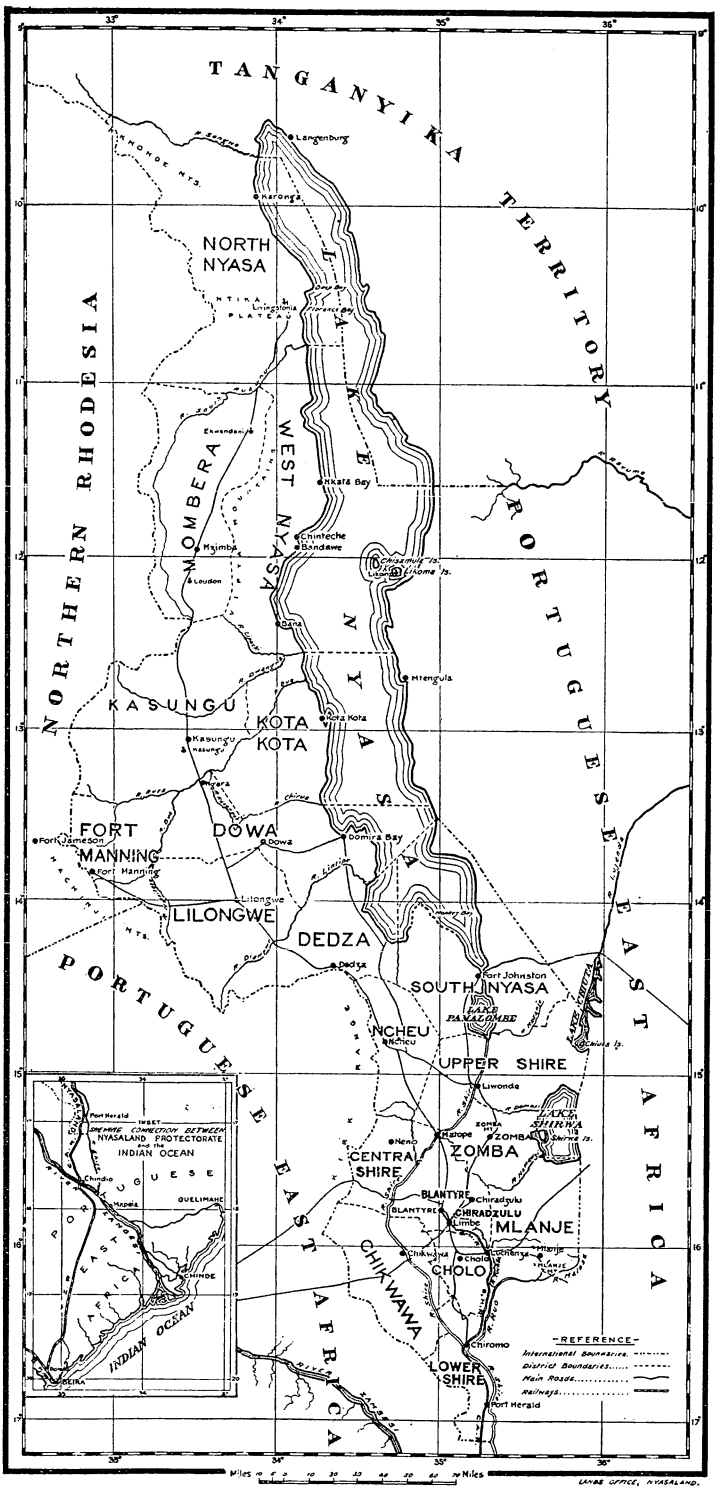

LANDS OFFICE, NYASALAND.

ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL OF PRINCIPAL PLACES (approximate)

Zomba	2948 Ft.	Fort Johnston	1700 Ft.	Luchenza	2500 ft.
Blantyre	3500 Ft.	Dedza	4500 ft.	Kota Kota	1800 ft.
Limbe	4000 Ft.	Ncheu	3500 Ft.	Chikwawa	127 ft.

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BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1929.

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BASUTOLAND.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.*

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PREFATORY NOTE.

History and Geography.

Basutoland, which is a native territory in South Africa, is bounded on the west by the Orange Free State, on the north by the Orange Free State and Natal, on the east by Natal and East Griqualand, and on the south by the Cape Province. Its area is 11,716 square miles. It lies between 28° 35′ and 30° 40′ South latitude, and between 27° and 29° 30′ East longitude.

The altitude varies from 5,000 ft. to 11,000 ft. above sea-level, and the climate is, on the whole, healthy. The Maluti Mountains, which occupy most of the country to the east, in former years were reserved entirely as cattle and sheep-posts, but owing to the increase

* The financial information given in this Report is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929.

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in population the Basuto have found it necessary to migrate there, build villages, and cultivate the land, so that to-day this more or less inaccessible area is gradually becoming as thickly populated as the low-lying country to the west. The result of this invasion into the mountain area is the disappearance of all big game, such as eland and hartebeest, that used to abound some thirty years ago and the gradual elimination of the smaller buck, and all species of wild fowl.

In favourable seasons the territory produces wheat, maize, and kaffir corn, and to a smaller extent peas, beans, and other vegetables, while horse-breeding and the raising of cattle and sheep are profitable undertakings, especially the latter ; the export of wool and mohair for this year amounting to 14,898,944 pounds weight, valued at £530,500 approximately.

In 1818 the first Paramount Chief of Basutoland, Moshesh, gathered together the various remnants of tribes which had become scattered about South Africa during the wars waged by Moselekatse, the King of the Matabele, and thus founded what has become the Basuto nation. The estimated native population is 550,000, while the Europeans, as taken in the last census in 1921, numbered 1,600.

In 1852 war broke out between Moshesh and the British Government ; the Basuto were defeated by Sir G. Cathcart at the battle of the Berea Mountain, and Moshesh sent in his submission and made peace. A series of wars then took place from 1856 onwards between the Basuto and the inhabitants of the Orange Free State, and it was not until 1868, when he was hard pressed by the Boers, that Moshesh appealed to the British Government for help and the recognition of his people as British subjects. This was carried into effect by a Proclamation dated the 12th March, 1868, and the event is now commemorated by observing this date as a public holiday, known as " Moshoeshoe's Day." In 1871, however, the territory was annexed to the Cape Colony and, after various disturbances, the Government of the Cape in April, 1880, extended the provisions of the Cape Peace Preservation Act of 1878 to Basutoland, which included a clause for the general disarmament of the Basuto. The Basuto, however, refused to accept the terms and, after a war lasting nearly a year, an agreement was arrived at by which the Act was repealed and certain fines inflicted on the tribe.

Although outwardly peace had been restored, there still remained several chiefs who would in no way accept the terms, and it was eventually decided by the Government of the Cape Colony to hand over the administration to the Imperial Government. This was effected by Order in Council of 2nd February, 1884, which was proclaimed and brought into force by Proclamation 75A of 18th March, 1884. Since that date the territory has been governed by a Resident Commissioner under the direction of the High Commissioner for South Africa.

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Languages.

The principal languages are English and Sesuto, although in the southern and south-eastern portions, other native languages are largely spoken.

Currency.

The coin in circulation is mainly South African, but late South African Republic coins are occasionally met with. Central Reserve Bank notes are brought into the territory, but the local Bank only re-issues the notes of joint stock banks. Gold coin is unlimited but the demand is negligible. During the year the Maseru Branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa exported £18,000 gold, £2,500 silver, and £25 copper. The figures for gold and silver show a substantial increase on those given last year.

It is considered that the amount of notes and coin in circulation will not be maintained as time goes on owing to increased spending by the native inhabitants, and the larger number who have learnt to deposit with the Bank; but the amount of coin in circulation at the end of 1929 was between £40,000 and £50,000, and notes between £100,000 and £125,000.

The Imperial Coinage Act, 1920, is in force in the territory, re-enacted under High Commissioner's Notice No. 63 of 1920.

Weights and Measures.

The weights and measures in use in Basutoland are the British Imperial, but the Colonial ton of 2,000 lb. is also used.

I.—GENERAL.

Chief Rafolatsane of Mokhotlong died in September, and there has been some discussion amongst his people as to who is to succeed him.

The succession to the Leribe Chieftainship, which became vacant on the death of Chief Jonathan in September, 1928, was disputed by members of the family of the late Chief, and the uncertainty which prevailed as to the settlement of the succession gave rise to some feeling of unrest in the area concerned among the partisans of the rival claimants.

There were no faction fights of any serious nature during the year.

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Two retirements from the Service took place during the year. Mr. A. T. Bond, Assistant Commissioner, retired in September and his post was filled by Captain T. B. Kennan, M.C. Mr. R. M. Bosworth Smith, C.B.E., retired from the office of Government Secretary on the 31st December, and Mr. F. L. Foord has since been appointed to the post.

His Excellency the High Commissioner paid a semi-official visit to the territory during the month of May.

Drought.—Although most promising rains fell at the close of the winter and in the early spring, the territory suffered a severe drought towards the end of the year, and the crop prospects are not too good.

The Assistant Commissioners' Conference.—The Assistant Commissioners of the territory held their annual Conference at Maseru during October, to discuss questions of administration which had arisen during the year.

The National Council.—The Twenty-Fourth Session of the Basutoland National Council was held at Maseru from the 12th to the 30th October, 1929. The following were the more important questions discussed :—

1. Reform of Native Courts.—After formal discussion, a Sub-Committee was appointed to go through the draft regulations framed by the Resident Commissioner, with a view to discussing the draft clause by clause, and making a recommendation at the end of their session to the full Council. The sitting of the Sub-Committee lasted for seven days, and the whole draft, with the exception of a few minor regulations, was rejected.

2. Consolidation of the Scab Regulations.

3. Deferred pay system at the mines—pleasing growth of—continued efforts.

4. Improvement of the quality of wool and mohair.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue for the financial year ended 31st March, 1929, amounted to £339,892, and the expenditure to £316,577, an excess of revenue over expenditure of £23,315.

The balance of assets in excess of liabilities at the 31st March, 1929, was £58,974, in addition to which there is a reserved surplus of £70,000 inclusive of the Swaziland loan.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure during the past five financial years :—

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REVENUE.

Head.	*1924–25*	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*
	£	£	£	£	£
Native Tax	127,531	139,776	132,072	137,744	141,719
Customs and Excise	76,765	84,196	87,352	92,201	96,072
Posts and Telegraphs	8,520	8,428	7,648	8,466	9,181
Licences	7,928	7,766	8,758	8,938	9,206
Fees of Court or Office	906	1,084	933	956	1,094
Judicial Fines	1,991	3,022	1,911	2,629	2,515
Income Tax	12,997	13,759	10,784	12,843	16,022
Fees for services rendered	1,484	1,386	1,278	1,159	1,296
Interest	1,735	1,819	2,158	2,275	3,670
Wool Export Duty	17,189	15,421	17,141	17,918	33,976
Miscellaneous	3,962	4,915	4,369	7,913	10,038
Education Levy	—	—	—	13,357	15,103
Totals	£261,008	£281,572	£274,404	£306,399	£339,892

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EXPENDITURE.

Head.	*1924–25*	*1925–26*	*1926–27*	*1927–28*	*1928–29*
	£	£	£	£	£
Resident Commissioner	13,692	13,829	13,811	12,532	13,099
District Administration	12,791	13,091	13,690	13,619	14,118
Police	36,756	37,507	39,164	39,160	38,357
Administration of Justice	11,078	11,659	11,194	12,379	11,764
Posts and Telegraphs	10,118	10,458	11,676	11,118	11,568
Public Works Department	5,665	5,616	5,218	5,147	5,239
Public Works Recurrent	22,153	23,778	25,669	23,044	29,502
Public Works Extraordinary	2,383	8,820	6,872	3,671	2,747
Medical	22,795	21,548	22,617	26,121	25,676
Education	35,836	40,113	41,412	54,871	58,596
Lerotholi Technical School	2,429	2,486	2,508	6,566	6,658
Agriculture	22,927	28,780	27,659	30,874	39,178
Allowances to Chiefs	12,323	11,994	11,691	12,002	12,562
National Council	2,193	2,037	1,909	1,641	1,762
Leper Settlement	19,077	19,306	19,401	19,558	19,238
Pensions	6,812	7,599	10,030	11,797	11,828
Miscellaneous	6,955	9,455	6,076	6,970	7,998
Capital Expenditure	4,214	—	2,030	3,804	6,687
Totals	£250,197	£268,076	£272,627	£294,874	£316,577

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Income Tax.

The rates of normal and super tax remained the same as during the preceding financial year, and were imposed by the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1925. The only enactment during the year under review dealing with Income Tax was the Basutoland Income Tax Proclamation, 1929 (No. 41 of 1929), which, in levying the tax for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1929, promulgated certain amendments to the Principal Law with the proviso that they should first take effect in respect of this period. The principal amendment was that the rebate in respect of children was raised to £75, and the age in respect of which the rebate could be claimed, to 21 years of age. This, however, did not affect the Income Tax collected in the financial year 1928–29, which was in respect of the twelve months ended 30th June, 1928, and was made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Arrear Normal Tax	591	4	6
Current Normal Tax	11,606	0	9
Arrear Super Tax	347	9	0
Current Super Tax	3,476	18	5
	£16,021	12	8

The following table shows the sources from which taxable incomes were derived and the amount of tax paid from each source, and also compares the collections with the previous year :—

Source.	*1927–1928* £	s.	d.	*1928–1929* £	s.	d.	+ *or* — £	s.	d.
General Traders	9,803	0	9	11,853	10	4	+ 2,050	9	7
Civil Servants	1,157	19	3	1,176	10	8	+ 18	11	5
Employed Persons	1,012	14	2	574	3	9	— 438	10	5
Others, including Bank	467	0	4	1,246	12	9	+ 779	12	5
Non-Residents	402	6	5	1,170	15	2	+ 768	8	9
	£12,843	0	11	£16,021	12	8	+ £3,178	11	9

The number of incomes assessed for current tax in the various categories were :—

Number.	*Category.*	*Total of Taxable Income.* £
36	£500 and under.	13,172
52	£501 to £750	32,250
28	£751 to £1,000	24,457
33	£1,001 to £1,500	41,309
8	£1,501 to £2,000	13,744
9	£2,001 to £4,000	24,763
7	Over £4,000	67,407
173	Total taxable income of persons assessed for current tax.	£217,102

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III.—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

Locust Destruction.—There has been no invasion of Basutoland by flying swarms of locusts since 1923, nor has there been any hatching out of *voetgangers* in this territory. No solitary brown locusts, which might breed up and finally form swarms have been noticed or reported to the Agricultural Officer. The Maseru Reserve has been fairly clear of the " Elegant Grasshopper " this year.

Agricultural Shows.—An amount of £760 was provided for agricultural shows, which were held in all the districts as usual, and in addition small shows were started at Butha Buthe and Peka, which were most successful. A much keener competition has been noticeable for the past few years in the produce classes. This can, without a doubt, be attributed to the work of the demonstrators, who are creating that spirit of competition which is so necessary for the improvement of agriculture.

Donga Prevention.—The aim of the Department in this direction during the year was to endeavour to maintain the work that had already been completed. Several methods have been utilized in the past in all parts of the territory to combat the continual erosion of the soil by donga formations.

It was the purpose of the Agricultural Department to instil into the native mind the loss of the richest soil that dongas continually and increasingly caused. Unfortunately, as was the case in other agricultural matters, it was found that the natives derived little benefit from this instruction ; and it was seldom that any attempt was made in their own villages to carry out the instructions. Hence, after considerable thought and in the light of experience gained, the Department made a thorough alteration in its instructional methods. Briefly, under the new plan, the native was taught better methods of agriculture viewed as a whole, in the hope that a knowledge of the whole subject would encourage and enable them to realize the real importance of donga prevention. For this purpose a number of native demonstrators have since been employed, who give lectures and ocular demonstration, so that the people may take a livelier interest in a subject of so much importance to them. They are shown the value of planting suitable trees where dongas have already formed, and the danger of careless ploughing and of having many needless cattle paths on land that is as yet free from erosion.

In spite of all this, however, there is no definite improvement to be reported, and fresh dongas are continually being formed and allowed to grow, without any effort on the part of the natives to combat their progress.

Tree Planting.—Tree nurseries are provided in the chief camps for the purpose of distributing trees free of charge to all natives and Europeans living in Basutoland. Although every facility is given

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the Basuto to encourage him to undertake tree planting on a bigger scale, the response is not yet all that might be wished for. There are, however, a number of small plantations all over the territory that have been planted since the war and are now beginning to show up well.

At the close of the year there were some 157,800 trees in the various Government nurseries. During the year 53,794 trees were issued to natives and others and 9,202 trees were planted in the various Government reserves.

Agricultural Associations.—The Department is aiming to foster the formation of these associations amongst the Basuto throughout Basutoland, with the idea of teaching the natives to take an interest in agriculture, to meet together to discuss agricultural questions and to help themselves without always expecting Government assistance for every little improvement made in their agricultural methods.

Agricultural Demonstrators.—Demonstration work was first started in Basutoland in 1924 with four Demonstrators, and the number employed has gradually risen to fifteen. They are all young men who have passed the Agricultural Diploma of one or other of the recognized Native Agricultural Schools in the Union of South Africa, and are distributed in each district and sub-district in the territory. Demonstrators are also stationed at Roma, Morija, and Leloaleng Training Institutions and the Lerotholi Technical School, Maseru, where demonstration lands are worked, and where agricultural apprentices are trained and the pupils given a course of agricultural lectures.

The general work of all demonstrators is to give lectures on subjects such as the selection of seed, planting and proper cultivation of the various crops grown throughout their districts shortly before these operations take place. They also undertake the working of various native lands to show a contrast between them and the ordinary lands worked by the natives themselves. In a good season a demonstrator works from 25 to 30 lands and obtains an increase of from 50 to 100 per cent.

Experimental work is also being carried out with the use of superphosphate and nitrate of soda. The application of superphosphate has been found most beneficial, a land thus fertilized yielding an increase in the region of 100 per cent. over an unfertilized land which has otherwise been treated in the same way. Nitrate of soda plots have been disappointing. Better results have been obtained on plots thus treated than on unmanured plots, but, on the whole, the experiments have been spoilt during the last two seasons by droughts occurring when the mealies were flowering.

Forestry, Fisheries, and Mining.

There are no natural forests in Basutoland and no fisheries. No mining operations are carried on.

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The following is a return of the imports into, and exports from the territory by general traders during the calendar year, 1929, the figures for 1928 being given for the purposes of comparison :—

IMPORTS.

	1928		1929	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
		£		£
MERCHANDISE	—	881,767	—	669,008
Livestock.—				
Horses, Mules, etc.	1,350	1,855	251	501
Cattle	4,772	11,239	2,428	6,351
Sheep and Goats	716	1,541	149	207
Grain.—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	6,920	10,460	5,415	8,837
Maize and Maize Meal	15,289	10,925	25,049	17,398
Kaffir Corn	3,399	3,124	4,315	3,030
Other Produce	—	663	—	1,084
Totals ...	—	£921,574	—	£706,416

EXPORTS.

	1928		1929	
	No.	*Value.*	*No.*	*Value.*
Livestock.—		£		£
Horses, Mules, etc.	32	233	104	534
Cattle	1,538	7,165	1,496	6,678
Sheep and Goats	—	—	26	25
Grain.—	*Muids.*		*Muids.*	
Wheat and Wheat Meal... ...	118,280	131,414	72,103	64,408
Maize and Maize Meal	100,774	59,295	87,404	42,144
Kaffir Corn	30,969	18,530	37,056	21,334
Oats	55	37	—	—
Barley	138	86	90	50
Beans and Peas	2,371	3,166	4,312	5,461
Wool and Mohair.—	*Lb.*		*Lb.*	
Wool	12,725,153	610,750	12,937,198	436,083
Mohair	1,921,189	139,484	1,961,746	94,352
Hides and Skins.—				
Hides	607,428	31,817	445,286	15,126
Skins	406,480	11,002	365,039	8,327
Miscellaneous	—	413	—	272
Totals	—	£1,013,392	—	£694,794

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Other Statistics.

Government imports during the year amounted to £54,686 as compared with £50,059 in 1928.

The total export of wool and mohair during the year amounted to 17,037,600 lb., of which 14,898,944 lb. was exported by general traders.

General.

All imports by traders are made through wholesale firms in the Union of South Africa or by direct indent with wholesale houses overseas, and all exports are to the Union of South Africa. It is therefore impossible to give the origin of goods imported or the ultimate destination of goods exported.

With the exception of fuel, soap, motor oil and petrol, which are purchased in the Union, all Government imports are made through the Crown Agents for the Colonies in London.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Railways.

There is only a small branch line on the Bloemfontein-Natal main line, from Marseilles to Maseru, only one mile of which is in Basutoland.

Roads and Bridges.

During the year re-gravelling and re-shaping work has been carried on almost continuously on the main or "A" roads. In many sections, low-lying portions have been raised, and considerable improvement to the alignment of the road has been effected. Attention has also been directed, to a greater extent than in previous years, to improving the drainage of the roads and a number of concrete pipe-drains have been built under the roads. Improvements in the side drainage have also been carried out. It will not be possible to complete the drainage of the roads satisfactorily for a number of years, but the progress made so far will be maintained and, it is hoped, accelerated in the future.

In the north, heavy constructional work, entailing considerable rock blasting, has been carried out on the Libono Road, which will be completed early during the coming year.

While it may be said that the roads of the north have improved generally during the year, the difficulty of obtaining road gravel within reasonable distance makes maintenance and constructional work slow and expensive. The roads in the south are more fortunate in this respect; yet here, too, the long leads and slow oxen transport delay constructional work to a serious extent.

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The " B " or " feeder " roads are still in a bad state of repair, but an endeavour is now being made to give them more constant attention.

During December heavy rains did considerable damage to the roads and causeways, mainly in the Leribe, Berea, and Mafeteng districts. The damage has been made good as far as is possible, but it is hoped to replace some of the causeways during the coming year by the construction of large culverts.

The main road from the railway station into Maseru has now been completed in a sound and durable manner.

The bridges in the territory have been maintained satisfactorily, and during the year a new floor of ferrocrete concrete has been laid on the Peka Bridge. The drift at Caledon's Poort has been rendered impassable during the last few months by continuous rains, and the construction of a bridge over the Caledon River in this neighbourhood in the near future is under consideration.

A bridge over the Tsoelike River, 20 miles from Qacha's Nek, has been undertaken departmentally. The stone masonry abutments have been completed and now the girder-work of a span of 210 feet suspension is in process of erection.

POSTAL.

All districts in Basutoland are linked up with Maseru by telegraph and telephone lines, with the exception of Qacha's Nek which is connected by telegraph and telephone to Matatiele in East Griqualand. The systems are owned by the Basutoland Government. Both telegraph and telephones are used by the general public and public telephone call offices are attached to each post office.

There are ten telegraph offices in the territory and 154¾ miles of telegraph wire. During 1929 telegraph messages numbering 59,651 were dealt with as follows :—cables, 241 ; Government telegrams, 3,692 ; ordinary, 21,173 ; transmitted, 13,764 ; received, 20,781.

There are ten central telephone offices with telephones in service. The length of local exchange wire is 84¼ miles and long-distance wire 573½ miles.

The following table shows the number of deposits in, and withdrawals from, the Post Office Savings Bank for the last two years :—

		Deposits.	*Withdrawals.*
1927–28	=	1,845, value £9,187.	867, value £6,540
1928–29	=	2,218, value £9,874.	956, value £8,130

The following table shows the number and value of money and postal orders issued and paid during the past two years :—

		Issued.	*Paid.*
1927–28	=	32,597, value £29,905.	47,427, value £53,377.
1928–29	=	33,231, value £29,369.	41,950, value £48,232.

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Administration of Justice.

During 1928 a Judicial Commissioner was appointed as President of the Court of the Resident Commissioner. This was promulgated by Proclamation No. 10 of 1928, which amended Proclamation No. 2B of 1884.

During the year 1929, 2,771 crimes were reported or known to the police, the number of persons proceeded against being 2,252, as compared with 2,914 and 2,737, respectively, for the year 1928. Convictions in Magisterial Courts numbered 1,804 and in the Resident Commissioner's Court 94, as compared with 2,162 and 37, respectively, in 1928.

The following table shows the number of convictions for various crimes and offences during the last four years :—

In Magisterial Courts.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Offences against the person ...	97	287	438	213
Offences against property ...	244	272	253	221
Offences against liquor laws ...	52	37	42	57
Other crimes	1,409	1,484	1,429	1,313
In the Resident Commissioner's Court.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Murder	6	1	1	6
Culpable homicide	38	24	20	30
Attempted murder	—	1	4	5
Rape	2	—	2	5
Unnatural crime	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the person	11	4	2	1
Offences against property with violence to the person.	298	48	4	33
Other offences against property...	41	15	3	14
Other crimes	1	—	—	—

Police.

The Basutoland Mounted Police is maintained under the Basutoland Proclamation No. 12 of 1921. The Force is under the control of the Resident Commissioner, who is also the Commandant, with a Staff Officer resident at Maseru.

There is a training depot for all recruits at Maseru under the supervision of the Staff Officer, with a Warrant Officer as Drill Instructor, a native Sergeant-Major, and a native non-commissioned officer.

Finger-print work is also carried out at Maseru and is under the charge of a Warrant Officer qualified in this work.

Mounted detachments of the Force are stationed in Maseru, and in the various districts of the territory, under the command of the European officers of the establishment who are responsible for the general police routine being carried out within their districts and for the efficiency of their respective detachments.

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The establishment of the Force is as follows :—

Europeans :—		
Inspectors	6	(one of whom is Staff Officer).
Sub-Inspectors ...	6	
Warrant Officers ...	2	(1 Chief Constable, 1 vacancy).
	14	
Native Police :—		
Sergeant-Major ...	1	
Sergeants	14	
Corporals	15	
Privates	309	
	339	
Total all ranks ...	353	

Depot.—As there is no surplus strength kept at the Depot recruits are only sent there for training after vacancies have been filled. Refresher courses are undertaken from drafts from the districts sent in from time to time. During 1929, 23 recruits were passed through and 89 men reported for refresher courses.

Finger-print Work.—This branch continues to do valuable service by supplying the Courts with the previous criminal history of accused persons whose finger-prints are sent in for identification. During the year, over 700 finger impressions were received for search. In addition to ordinary criminal work, search was made on behalf of other departments to ensure that persons desirous of employment had no serious criminal conviction registered against them.

Health of Police.—During the year the health of the police has been good. It is regretted that two deaths occurred among the native staff early in the year.

Conduct of Police.—As strict discipline has to be, and is, maintained, native members of the staff who are guilty of repeated misconduct are generally dismissed. Ten discharges are recorded during the year for unsatisfactory conduct ; otherwise the conduct of the police has been very good.

Condition of Troop Horses.—Considering the extensive patrol work performed by the native members of the Force, and the droughty conditions which prevailed in many of the districts, the horses have maintained their condition remarkably well. Nine deaths were reported during the year, and compensation was paid to the owners, it being the practice that horses are privately owned but fed at Government expense, each man's horse being registered for insurance purposes.

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Work performed by Police.—The following is a summary of the routine work carried out during the year :—

Crimes reported to the Police	2,771
Persons prosecuted	2,252
Persons convicted	1,898
Miscellaneous inquiries, etc.	981

Apart from the ordinary routine, the Police were called upon to perform extraneous duties, such as assisting in the collection of Hut Tax, Wool Tax, providing prison guards, clerical assistance in various District offices, and services in the Medical and Veterinary Departments.

Crime.—In the year under review there were less crimes of violence dealt with than in the previous year, but there was a slight increase in the contravention of the Liquor Laws. The long section of the border, which it is impossible to police regularly, gives the smugglers ample scope, but every endeavour is being made to combat the evil.

Stock theft still continues to be a grave menace to the stock-owners, and prosecutions appear to be about the same as in previous years. Further co-operation on the part of the chiefs with the police would be a benefit in the detection of this crime.

In respect of crimes of a less serious nature, the figures for the year show a slight decrease.

A summary of criminal statistics for the year is shown under the heading, " Justice."

Prisons.

There are nine gaols and one lock-up in the territory, and 2,643 prisoners passed through them during the year, as compared with 2,597 in 1928.

For several years past all juvenile offenders of from 15 to 20 years of age have been sent to serve their sentences at the Peka Gaol where they are under the close supervision of the officer-in-charge, who reports that their conduct and work during the year has been satisfactory.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Extensive repairs to Government buildings have been undertaken during the year at Mafeteng, Mohales Hoek, and the Leper Settlement compounds, while numerous smaller repairs and works, such as native sheep inspectors' quarters and police stabling, have been undertaken in the various camps.

Two additional rooms were built on to the existing laundry at the Maseru Hospital by the Lerotholi Technical School, and a new room has been added to the Agricultural Officer's quarters. At the Leper Settlement, additions have been made to the Medical Officer's offices and consulting room, and alterations effected to the female

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dining hall and the laboratory. In Mafeteng a new up-to-date Residency has been built in stone with iron roof, at a cost of approximately £2,700.

Water Works.

Owing to the difficulty experienced in maintaining adequate supplies of water in the camps during periods of drought, it was decided to put down a number of bore-holes throughout the territory, to supplement the supplies gravitated from springs outside the camps. Five holes were sunk at Berea during the year, and it is hoped that they will supply sufficient water for the needs of the camp. Holes have also been sunk at Butha Buthe and Peka, and the work will continue during next year at Maseru, Mafeteng and Mohales Hoek.

The Maseru River water pumping plant is getting very old, and it is now only possible to get a delivery of 2,000 gallons instead of 12,000 per hour. The average daily supply of water gravitated to the reservoir is 30,000 gallons.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

During the year 1929, 2,479 patients, 99 of whom were Europeans, were treated in the various hospitals. Although this number is 147 more than in 1928, there is still a decrease as compared with 1927. Deaths amounted to 157. The surgical work was well maintained. The wife of the Paramount Chief underwent a severe abdominal operation in Maseru but made a fine recovery.

The number of cases treated in the out-patients' department was 59,565, showing a decrease of 6,525 as compared with the figures for 1928, which was probably due to the increased rainfall. 3,857 people were vaccinated against smallpox and quite a number inoculated against typhoid fever.

The revenue collected in hospital and dispensary fees was £2,646 13s. 3d. The following table details the above-quoted total :—

District.	*In-Patients.*	*Out-Patients.*	*	*Vaccinations.*	*Revenue.* £	s.	d.
Maseru	899	9,212	4,314	—	870	6	9
Leribe	504	7,639	3,015	3	513	17	9
Mafeteng	374	7,789	4,620	—	471	10	6
Mohales Hoek	274	3,970	1,318	—	193	12	6
Quthing	242	5,080	2,154	870	265	4	3
Qacha's Nek	186	3,003	1,211	2,984	130	0	0
Berea	—	5,002	1,238	—	202	1	6
Totals	2,479	41,695	17,870*	3,857	£2,646	13	3

* Denotes subsequent attendance at dispensary.

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The general health of the territory has been distinctly good, since there were fewer cases of epidemic disease and less patients attended the dispensaries than in former years. The cases of enteric fever totalled less than half of those reported last year, and only one case of scarlet fever was reported during 1929. There were, however, five more cases of typhus fever than in 1928; and eight cases of smallpox were treated. The figures for epidemic, endemic, and infectious diseases for the year, are as follows :—

Typhoid	255
Typhus	38
Smallpox	8
Measles	82
Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	444
Influenza	584
Dysentery	151
Anthrax	31
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	263

There were no cases of diphtheria and, were people to bury whole instead of skinning and eating animals which have died from anthrax, there would be no incidence of this disease either. It is proposed in the future to adopt a treatment by injection for syphilis which will, perhaps, after a while diminish the number of cases of this malady.

Cyano gas has been tried for destroying rodents on the veldt in and around Maseru Camp, and has proved quite effective. It can, however, be used only over a small area.

The gaols throughout the territory, when inspected, were clean, and there has been no outbreak of serious disease among the inmates. Three executions were carried out in Maseru during the year.

The sanitation throughout the territory is satisfactory, and the conveniences therefor are being gradually increased.

An abattoir is being constructed in Maseru which should prove a great benefit.

Leper Settlement.

On the 31st December, 1928, the population of the Settlement was 526, consisting of 243 males and 283 females. On the 31st December, 1929, there were 291 males and 338 females, making a total of 629, showing an increase of population of 103.

The changes of the population throughout the year are indicated in the following table :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Deserted.*	*Discharged.*
Males	93	6	30	5	16
Females	91	8	19	5	20
Totals	184	14	49	10	36

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The following is the corresponding table for the year 1928 :—

	Admitted.	*Re-admitted.*	*Died.*	*Deserted.*	*Discharged.*
Males	58	9	21	5	35
Females	57	7	14	6	20
Totals	115	16	35	11	55

The increase in the number of patients admitted was 69. There was a decrease in the number of those re-admitted of 2, an increase of 14 in those who died, a decrease of 1 in those who deserted, and a decrease of 19 in those who were discharged. The substantial increase in the number of admissions is doubtless the result of the work of the two Health and Welfare Inspectors appointed during the year, whose duty it is to travel the country looking for cases of this disease. Further, the chiefs are taking a more active part in finding and reporting cases; also legal action has been taken where it has been proved that lepers have been hidden away.

During the year the inmates of the Asylum were, on the whole, well-behaved and contented. The influence of the old residents on the large number of new-comers was good, and the latter have settled down peacefully to life in the Asylum.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education in Basutoland is under the supervision of a Director of Education, a Senior Inspector of Schools, three European Inspectors, and four Native Supervisors.

The majority of schools are Government-aided schools under missionary control. Two Government schools, one at Maseru and one at Mafeteng, were opened during 1929 to provide for scholars in Standards IV, V, and VI. The only other school under Government management is the Lerotholi Technical School at Maseru.

The total number of Government and Government-aided schools is 547, of which 10 are Institutions (Normal, Industrial, and Agricultural), 38 are Intermediate Schools, and 499 are Elementary Vernacular Schools.

The number of pupils on the roll for 1929 was 49,468 and the average attendance was 36,759. The Education vote for the year ending 31st March, 1930, was £49,508 and the balance in the Education Fund is estimated at over £20,000.

European Education.

There are eight small primary schools in the territory, with a total attendance of a little over 100 pupils, to provide for the elementary education of the children in the various camps. These schools are managed by local committees and are supported by the Government.

A detailed report on Education is being published separately.

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X.—LABOUR.

The following figures give the number of passes issued to natives to leave the territory for labour purposes during the last two years :—

Year.	Mines.	Railway Construction.	Agriculture.	Miscellaneous Labour.	Total.
1928	25,523	284	7,353	20,718	53,878
1929	28,705	449	13,483	32,125	74,762

The substantial increase in the number of those seeking work outside the territory, as it represents in inverse proportion the economic prosperity of the country, supports what has already been said in regard to the comparative failure of the crops during the year.

XI.—VETERINARY.

Anthrax.

During the year, 16 outbreaks of anthrax have occurred and 34,494 doses of anthrax vaccine have been issued. The seasonal fluctuations of outbreaks of this disease are difficult to understand, and this year there has been a gratifying decrease of 20 outbreaks ; it is very doubtful, however, if this denotes that any marked headway has been made in the clearing up of the many infected areas.

As many of the outspans are recognized to be badly anthrax-infected areas, the inoculation of all transport oxen is rigorously enforced and, no doubt, is a helpful factor in reducing the distribution of anthrax infection. In no outbreak were any serious losses sustained, and the prompt employment of the Union Government vaccine invariably shut down the incidence of further cases.

Equine Mange.

The position of equine mange has continued to improve, and, except in those mountain areas where no tanks exist or where unowned horses have gone wild, very few well-defined cases have been seen during the year.

It is now the custom for dipping supervisors of tanks to have a periodical round up of the local horses for inspection, and should there be any evidence of itching, loss of hair, etc., the owners are requested to bring their animals to the tank for treatment. During 1929, 3,796 animals were treated, as compared with 5,572 in 1928.

Sheep Scab.

The spring of 1929 was a very pleasant contrast to that of 1928 and, with good winter rains, sheep free from scab remained in good condition, and sheep-owners had a very good lambing. In the mountain areas, where no dipping tanks existed, however, the loss

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in sheep was very heavy, the wet winter and spring being apparently very favourable to the spread of the scab mite, and a number of large sheep-owners lost their entire crop of lambs owing to the ravages of scab. It is this fact that makes the erection of a tank in the mountains so welcome.

During the year there have been many setbacks to the scab eradication campaign, the outcome of the constant movements, despite all the efforts to control them, of infected sheep from untanked areas into clean ones. Until it is possible to ensure that no scabby sheep can be moved from one area to another there is no hope of finally eradicating scab, and this can only be brought about when the entire territory is supplied with dipping tanks. Fortunately, that desirable goal is about to be achieved.

During the year, contracts were given for the erection of 27 new tanks in the mountain areas, as follows :—11 in Mokhotlong, 5 in Leribe, 5 in Butha Buthe, 1 in Qacha's Nek, 4 in Berea, and 1 in Maseru districts. Every effort is being made to have these tanks completed before the end of the financial year. The transport of material for tanks in the Mokhotlong area has been a formidable undertaking, which will be readily understood when 1,100 pack animals were employed to transport the material for the 11 new tanks in this district.

The policy of subjecting all clean areas to a table inspection and the simultaneous dipping of all infected areas at the completion of the lambing and shearing seasons has again been enforced. 785,164 sheep and goats were subjected to a simultaneous inspection and none of these was found to be infected. During the year, 2,986,021 sheep and goats were dipped, being an increase of 664,100 on the number dipped in 1928.

All sheep in the Quthing, Mohales Hoek, Mafeteng, Maseru, and Sehlabathebe areas are now under the Scab Law, and it is hoped that by next year the Berea, Leribe, Mokhotlong, and Butha Buthe districts will be in a similar position, leaving about 15 more tanks to be completed in order to bring the whole territory under the Scab Law.

During the year the shortcomings of the native staff have not decreased and there is no doubt whatever that this is the weakest spot in the scab campaign. As a rule they are unreliable, disinterested, and apathetic, and few of them show any ambition or pride in their work. Native scab inspectors were appointed to the Berea and Leribe districts during the year, and although 192 dipping supervisors are employed, very few of them show any suitability for the position of native scab inspectors.

The proposed alteration in the original Scab Law was discussed at the National Council this year, and was finally agreed to. The amended Law will, it is hoped, prove comprehensive, and a model for any native territory.

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Parasiticism in Sheep.

Much propaganda work has been done during the year in attempting to make the sheep-owners realize the heavy annual losses that occur through the prevalence of worms in their flocks of sheep and goats. 5,000 pamphlets on the subject were distributed, and wire worm remedy was offered at 1s. a tin sufficient to dose 150 sheep. There was, however, no marked response to these efforts.

As a result of serious complaints in regard to the quality and length of Basutoland mohair from the brokers and manufacturers, the Principal Veterinary Officer met the buyers of Basutoland mohair at Port Elizabeth, and discussed the position with them. A great effort is being made in co-operation with the Basutoland Chamber of Commerce to rectify these troubles. 5,000 pamphlets in Sesuto have been distributed throughout the territory, and the Veterinary staff lose no opportunity of talking to Angora goat breeders on this question.

General.

Owing to the apparent increase in population there has been a growing tendency in the past 20 years for natives to remove from the lowlands and reside in the Malutis. These people naturally wish to grow food, the soil and climate of the mountain area being suitable for wheat-growing, but unfortunately in many cases no judgment has been displayed in the selection of sites for ploughing purposes, and it is quite a common sight to see natives breaking up the finest sheep veld on the precipitous sides of the mountains. The result of this is that these lands often do not last for more than a few years, as heavy thunderstorms start to wash them away and dongas commence to form. Another very serious aspect of this ploughing is the destruction of the natural and legitimate grazing grounds of the sheep which are moved into other already overstocked pastures. The result is that considerable areas of the very best sheep grazing are now being invaded by inedible weeds and thus seriously reducing the sheep-carrying capacity of the country.

Strangles has been very prevalent among the horses, and the usual cases of gall-sickness and biliary fever have been successfully treated.

During the year, 2,146 professional visits and attendances were made by the Principal Veterinary Officer.

Stud.

During the season, 127 mares were covered by the Government stallions. Of the 113 mares covered in 1928, 37 proved in foal, a clear indication of the abnormally bad spring of that year. Better results are hoped for in 1930, as the mares were presented in better condition, the result of the early spring rains.

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XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The following Proclamations were promulgated during the year :—

(1) No. 4.—Basutoland Extradition and Fugitive Offenders (South West Africa) Proclamation, 1929.

(2) No. 11.—Basutoland Pass Laws Exemption Proclamation, 1929.

(3) No. 16.—Amending Basutoland Police Offences Proclamation, No. 31 of 1928.

(4) No. 20.—Extending in certain respects the jurisdiction which may be conferred upon Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Police in Basutoland under Proclamation No. 1 of 1912.

(5) No. 22.—Basutoland further Appropriation (1927–28) Proclamation, 1929.

(6) No. 26.—Basutoland Customs and Excise Duties (Amendment) Proclamation, 1929.

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(8) No. 36.—Basutoland Appropriation (1929–30) Proclamation, 1929.

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BASUTOLAND.

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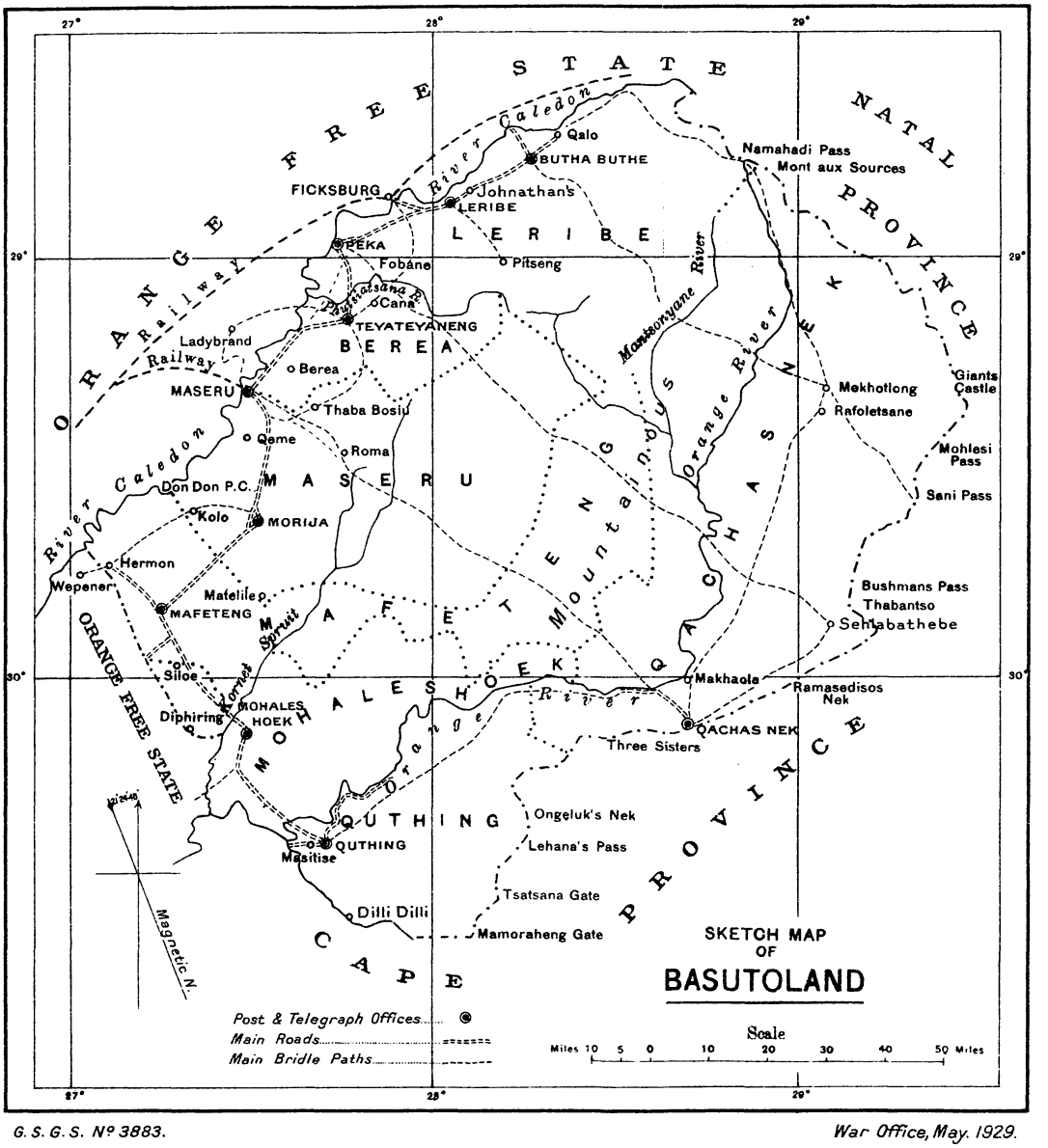

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1929.*

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HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL.

Proclamation of British Protectorate.—During the year 1885, Sir Charles Warren, who was in command of an expedition despatched from England to pacify Southern Bechuanaland, where for some time previously hostilities had been proceeding between the Bechuana and Boers from the South African Republic, visited the principal chiefs in Northern Bechuanaland (known as the Bechuanaland Protectorate), namely, Khama, Gasietsiwe, and Sebele, and as a result a British Protectorate was proclaimed over their territories. No further steps were taken until the year 1891, when, by an Order in Council, dated the 9th May, the limits of the Bechuanaland Protectorate were more clearly defined, and the High Commissioner for South Africa was authorized to appoint such officers as might appear to him to be necessary to provide for the administration of justice, the raising of revenue, and generally for the peace, order, and good government of all persons within the limits of the Order. Sir Sydney Shippard, the Administrator of Bechuanaland, was appointed Resident Commissioner. An Assistant Commissioner was also appointed for the Southern Protectorate

* The financial information given in this report is for the year ended the 31st March, 1929. Other details are for the calendar year 1929.

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and another for the Northern Protectorate, the laws in force in the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope on the 10th June, 1891, being declared in force in the territory, *mutatis mutandis*, and so far as not inapplicable. Subsequent legislation has been effected by Proclamation of the High Commissioner.

Relations with the British South Africa Company.—For fiscal and other purposes the Protectorate was treated as a portion of the Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland until the 15th November, 1895, when the latter was annexed to the Cape Colony. In the autumn of that year arrangements were made for the transfer of the administration of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, with the exception of certain reserves for native chiefs, to the British South Africa Company. The country occupied by the Bamalete tribe, and so much of the Bora-Tshidi Barolong country as lies within the limits of the Protectorate, were transferred to the administration of the British South Africa Company. Later the administration of the two areas above referred to was transferred to the British Government, by whom the Protectorate, in its entirety, is still governed under the name of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. It includes the Tati District, which is a portion of old Matabeleland conceded in 1887, by Lobengula, to Mr. S. H. Edwards.

Boundaries.—The territory of the Bechuanaland Protectorate is bounded on the south and east by the Union of South Africa, on the north-east by Southern Rhodesia, and on the north and on the west by the territory of South West Africa.

It has not been surveyed as a whole, but its area is estimated at 275,000 square miles. Its mean altitude is about 3,300 feet.

That part of the mandated territory of South West Africa east of Longitude 21° E., known as the Caprivi Strip, was, as a matter of temporary convenience, administered as a portion of the Bechuanaland Protectorate from 1922 until the 1st September, 1929, when it was taken over by the Administration of South West Africa.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate is divided for administrative purposes into the following districts, with a Magistrate at the head of each :—

N'gamiland (Headquarters Maun).
Chobe (Headquarters Kasane).
Ngwato (Headquarters Serowe).
Gaberones (Headquarters Gaberones).
Lobatsi (Headquarters Lobatsi).
Ghanzi (Headquarters Gemsbok Pan).
Francistown (Headquarters Francistown).
Tuli Block (Headquarters Selika).
Kweneng (Headquarters Molepolole).
Ngwaketsi (Headquarters Kanye).
Kgalagadi (Headquarters Lehututu).

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In addition the Assistant Resident Commissioner is Chief Magistrate for the Protectorate, and, as such, has all the powers of an Assistant Commissioner or Resident Magistrate throughout the territory.

CURRENCY.

The coinage legally current in the Bechuanaland Protectorate is declared by Order in Council dated the 23rd January, 1911, to be all British coins and all Transvaal coins, British coins being defined as any coins which under the Coinage Acts, 1870 and 1891, are legal tender in the United Kingdom, and Transvaal coins as any coins which were coined in the Mint established at Pretoria by the Government of the late South African Republic in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 14 of 1891 of that Republic.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The weights and measures in use in the territory are Imperial.

LANGUAGES.

The principal languages spoken are English and Sechuana.

In the Lobatsi District there are many settlers of Dutch extraction who speak only Afrikaans. The Bakgatla tribe speak a language akin to Sesuto called Sekgatla.

In the Tati District the principal tribe (Makalaka) speak Sekalaka or Sekalanga, a combination of Sechuana and Setebele. In the portion of the Caprivi Strip east of the Mashi river Sekololo is spoken, which is Sesuto intermingled with words that have survived from the language spoken in Barotseland before the Basuto conquest in the early part of last century. West of the Mashi river are the Mampukushu, who speak their own language, which is of different construction from those of any of the neighbouring tribes. So, too, is the Damara, which the refugees from German rule who settled at Xomo on the Botletle river under Headman Nicodemus speak. In the Kalahari Desert the utterly distinct Bushman tongue is often encountered, but very few Europeans can master it.

I.—GENERAL.

Visit of the High Commissioner.

The second visit to the territory of His Excellency the High Commissioner, Major-General the Earl of Athlone, K.G., took place in September. The first three weeks of His Excellency's stay were occupied in a shooting camp at Kwaai in N'gamiland where, in company with Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, and Lady May Cambridge, His Excellency obtained very good sport.

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On the 5th of October, His Excellency's party were received at Tsessebe by the Resident Commissioner (Lieutenant-Colonel R. M. Daniel, C.B.E.) and Mr. R. McFarlane, J.P., Member of the Advisory Council, and at Francistown by the Resident Magistrate, the General Manager of the Tati Company (Mr. H. S. Gordon) and Mr. James Haskins.

On reaching Palapye Road next day His Excellency and Her Royal Highness were received by the Resident Magistrate of the Ngwato District and the Chief Tshekedi, Acting Chief and Regent of the Bamangwato.

After the local Europeans had been presented the Royal party motored to Serowe on the outskirts of which they were met by Chief Tshekedi's bodyguard and escorted through the town to the site of the new hospital. This hospital, towards the cost of which the Prince of Wales and the late Chief Sekgoma had contributed on the occasion of His Royal Highness's visit to Serowe in 1925, had just been completed, and His Excellency performed the opening ceremony. Hundreds of natives in uniform, belonging to the respective "regiments," formed a huge semi-circle round the entrance to the Hospital. After an introductory address by the Resident Commissioner His Excellency formally declared the hospital open. In the course of his subsequent speech, His Excellency exhorted the Bamangwato to support the hospital and co-operate with the Medical Officers in every way. The Acting Chief Tshekedi then replied. His Excellency afterwards spent a few minutes in conversation with the young Chief Seretse, the sole surviving son of the late Chief Sekgoma, while Her Royal Highness conversed with Semane, Khama's widow.

His Excellency inspected the hospital buildings and expressed appreciation of the architecture and workmanship.

Eloquent testimony of the esteem in which His Excellency is held was evidenced by the loud and prolonged "Pulas" (Rain) which the natives voiced as the High Commissioner drove away.

After luncheon the party proceeded by road (66 miles) to Mahalapye. Striking examples of the pastoral wealth of the Bamangwato were observed *en route* in the shape of numerous herds of cattle in excellent condition. A brief halt was made at Mathiba's Dairy, one of the model dairies in the Protectorate, and His Excellency was greatly impressed by the hygienic methods employed.

On arrival at Mahalapye His Excellency was welcomed by the Resident Magistrate of the Tuli Block and Mr. H. C. Weatherilt, O.B.E., the leading Member of the Advisory Council.

On reaching Lobatsi on the 7th October, the High Commissioner and Princess Alice were received at the Station by the Government Secretary, Mr. Glover, and Mr. van Rensburg, Members of the Advisory Council, Mr. J. P. Mulligan, local Manager for the British South Africa Company, Mr. Paul Morsbach, Manager of the

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Bechuanaland Cold Storage Company, Limited, and Mr. W. H. Paul, and immediately motored to the site of the new hospital, where they were welcomed by the Resident Magistrates of the Lobatsi, Ngwaketsi and Kweneng Districts, the Crown Prosecutor and nearly every one of the Headquarter officials, and many of the inhabitants of the Southern Protectorate, European and Native, who greeted His Excellency and Her Royal Highness with loud cheers. After an introduction from the Resident Commissioner, His Excellency made a short speech recounting the circumstances under which the new hospital was being erected by the Government as the counterpart of that just opened by him for the Northern Protectorate, and in doing so paid tribute to the services rendered by Doctor Donald Mackenzie MacRae, C.B.E., M.D., under the difficult conditions which had prevailed in the Protectorate for many years, when the only hospital was the very small one at Gaberones. He introduced the new Principal Medical Officer, Doctor Hamilton William Dyke, M.B., Ch.B. (Glas.), and paid tribute to the work of Mrs. Ruth Paul, M.B.E., in nursing the sick in the Southern Protectorate for many years. His Excellency then laid the foundation stone of the new building, afterwards investing Doctor MacRae with the insignia of Commander of the Order of the British Empire and Captain Almar Gordon Stigand with that of the Imperial Service Order.

Before entraining for Pretoria the High Commissioner attended a reception of about a thousand natives of the two Barolong tribes, the Bakwena, the Bangwaketsi, the Bamalete, the Bakgatla and the Batlokwa headed by their respective Chiefs. In his speech His Excellency reviewed the progress made since his last visit in 1926, particularly commending the improvements brought about and practical results achieved in native dairying and the good example of the Bangwaketsi in caring for the well-bred bulls purchased for them by the Government. He exhorted continued attention to the advice of the Dairy Expert, not only as to dairying, but as to the care and feeding of their dairy cattle. His Excellency enjoined that greater efforts should be made to keep their small stock clean from scab, and that the efforts of the Barolong and Bakgatla in this regard should be emulated by the other tribes. He promised that the Government would shortly arrange for a tour of their headmen through Basutoland, in order that they might learn from the Basuto the great benefits of dipping and the amount of money which could be made out of wool. In the matter of water-boring His Excellency said Government was considering the purchase of a drill chiefly for use in the Native Reserves. He next referred to education and urged that the efforts of the new Inspector of Education to organize native schools on a sound footing should have their support, as the aim was to give them the advantages of modern European education while preserving all that was best in their own customs and traditions. Besides learning

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such industries as might bring them profitable employment at home, their children would be encouraged to preserve and improve the crafts which they had been taught in infancy. In welcoming the new Chiefs, Bathoen of the Bangwaketsi and Molefi of the Bakgatla, His Excellency remarked that they were both very young men; they should follow in the footsteps of their wise fathers and obey the Government in all things, and should confide in and listen to the Magistrates and show them the same respect as they required their people to show to them. He paid tribute to the fine example set by the retiring Regent of the Bakgatla, Chief Isang Pilane, in his efforts to promote the welfare of his Tribe in education and agriculture.

Nata Expedition.

On 25th June, 1929, a Southern Rhodesia—Bechuanaland Protectorate joint expedition, led by the Imperial Secretary (Captain the Honourable B. E. H. Clifford, C.M.G., M.V.O.) left Francistown in a motor lorry for exploratory work west of the Nata River. Mr. S. P. J. Fry of the Rhodesia Railways, Mr. Macgregor of the Southern Rhodesia Geological Survey Department, and Mr. N. F. Viljoen, Government Veterinary Officer, Bechuanaland Protectorate, accompanied the expedition. The lorry used was of the Thorneycroft A.4 type equipped with an extra large radiator, a motor condenser and specially oversize Dunlop tyres with exceptionally thick walls and tread in order to overcome the difficulties hitherto associated with desert travel, with water consumption, punctures, and heavy sand. The extra power of the six-cylinder engine used in this type of chassis was also expected to limit the amount of low-gear work and reduce petrol consumption. Grateful acknowledgments are due for the personal interest of Sir John Thorneycroft which had been attracted by the transport difficulties experienced in last year's expedition, and for the generosity displayed by his firm in lending the lorry and its driver (R. D. Speed) and by the Shell Company in providing the petrol.

After surveying the western shore of the Lake the expedition crossed the Botletle River at Namasseri and continued along the Kalahari sand belt to Rakops. Returning thence via Gomo and Mopepe, a different route, they skirted the eastern shore of the Makarikari and so in the course of their journey travelled all round the lake which was found to have generally a well defined shore and in those portions not yet reached by the river water to be one wide expanse of white saline crust.

Although the journey was not pursued to N'gamiland owing to lack of time the expedition did not turn until close to its eastern boundary, and ascertained that the return route traversed by them will provide at comparatively little expense a well watered

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road for motors and oxen, and is probably the best route obtainable for such a road from east to west. Arrangements are being made for the remainder of the route to Maun to be reconnoitred for this purpose by a sufficiently qualified Protectorate Officer.

The Caprivi Strip which since 1922, has been administered by the Bechuanaland Protectorate on behalf of the Mandatory Power, was handed over to the South West Africa Administration on the 1st September, 1929. The ceremony took place at Andara, the Administrator of South West Africa, the Assistant Secretary to that Administration, the Irrigation Officer and the Chairman of the Land Board being present, with Captain J. W. Potts, Resident Magistrate, and Government Veterinary Officer H. M. Webb, M.R.C.V.S., on behalf of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The Protectorate Officers reached Andara after a most arduous trek through the Strip from Kabulabula at the eastern end occupying twenty days. On their return with the Administrator by motor car the South West Africa party were compelled to return owing to the Maschi River being flooded and the ceremony of handing over the eastern end of the Strip was performed by Captain Potts.

During the period March-November, 1929, Captain G. C. Shortridge, M.B.E., for over twenty-five years attached to the British Museum, and now Director of the Kaffrarian Museum at Kingwilliamstown, carried out an expedition which touched the north western portion of the territory (the Okavango River and Western Caprivi areas) as part of a mammal survey of South West Africa on which he has been engaged for the past six years.

The expedition, which has been preceded by five others, was jointly financed by the British Museum, the South West Africa Administration and the Research Grant Board (Johannesburg), and was extraordinarily successful.

The collections obtained not only consist of a record number of the mammals that occur in that region—some 2,200 specimens having been obtained including amongst others foxes, cats, civets, mongooses, otters, badgers, etc.—but also comprise a particularly interesting assortment of Kang Bushmen, and other native curios.

Valuable specimens of large game, including rhinoceros, hippopotamus, lechwi, sitatunga, sable, oribi, waterbuck, and buffalo were also obtained for distribution to the British and Kaffrarian Museums, and with the help of the material and field notes taken, Captain Shortridge hopes, with the collaboration of the British Museum, to bring out an illustrated publication on the mammal fauna of South West Africa.

During November Mr. Donald Bain on behalf of the General Motors Limited brought an Oldsmobile car from Windhoek to Johannesburg, travelling through the Kalahari Desert along Captain Clifford's route, in six and a half days. This is the quickest journey

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yet made across that part of the Desert, and was an entirely successful effort, only one puncture being sustained.

An expedition to the Makarikari Lake for the purpose of exploring that region for indigenous fodder grasses was undertaken by Dr. I. B. Pole Evans, C.M.G., D.Sc., Chief of the Division of Plant Industry under the Union Department of Agriculture, accompanied by Mr. H. Lang of the Transvaal Museum Staff, with highly successful results. The expedition left Francistown by motor lorry on 11th December, returning there on 17th December.

The European Advisory Council held its tenth and eleventh meetings at Mafeking in February and August, respectively.

The Council is representative of seven electoral areas, covering the whole territory, as follows :—

1. Ghanzi District, and all Crown Lands;
2. Francistown District, excluding Crown Lands;
3. Tuli Block District;
4. Ngwato (Bamangwato Reserve), N'gamiland (Batawana Reserve), and Chobe Districts;
5. Gaberones Block together with all the land lying between the Bamalete Reserve and Gaberones Block bounded on the north-west by the Bakwena Reserve and on the east by the eastern boundary of the farm " Crocodile Pools ";
6. Lobatsi District (excluding Barolong Farms, but including the farm " Panyani ");
7. Bamalete, Bakgatla, Bakwena and Bangwaketsi Reserves, and Barolong Farms;

each of which returns one member who must be a qualified voter and have been nominated by not less than five qualified voters, and he holds his seat on the Council for a period of three years. Immediately prior to a new election (or by-election) a register of qualified voters in each area is compiled. Every owner or lessee of land situate within the territory of the value of £200, or the owner of stock within the territory of the value of £200 and bona fide used for farming purposes, or a holder of a General Dealer's Licence within the territory, or a person who derives from sources within the territory an annual income of not less than £200, provided that in each case such person is a British subject of European parentage, of full age and sound mind, and has resided in the territory for 12 months immediately preceding the compiling of the register, has one vote. Each candidate for election must deposit the sum of £25, which is forfeited should he fail to poll one-fifth of the total number of votes polled by the successful candidate. Three members may suggest to the Resident Commissioner the advisability of calling a meeting at any time stating their reasons. The Resident Commissioner presides over the sittings of the Council.

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The present members of the Council are :—

H. C. Weatherilt, Esquire, O.B.E., J.P. (Electoral areas Nos. 1 and 3);
R. McFarlane, Esquire, J.P. (Electoral area No. 2);
R. A. Bailey, Esquire, J.P. (Electoral area No. 4);
L. S. Glover, Esquire (Electoral area No. 5);
G. F. J. van Rensburg, Esquire (Electoral area No. 6);
R. Transfeldt, Esquire (Electoral area No. 7).

Since the Council met in September, the death occurred of Mr. B. I. Vickerman, a very old resident of the Protectorate who had been a member of the Council since its inception, and had latterly sat as representative of Electoral area No. 7. He was an indefatigable worker in the public interest and both the Administration and the Council feel the loss of his valued advice.

The ninth annual meeting of the Native Advisory Council was held at Gaberones in March.

The Council is normally representative of the tribes of the Southern Protectorate only, namely, the Barolong, the Bakwena, the Bangwaketsi, the Bakgatla, the Bamalete, and the Batlokwa. The Council consists of a maximum of 30 members, five (one of whom must be the ruling Chief) being elected by each of the six tribes according to their custom, and discusses with the Resident Commissioner all matters affecting native interests which any of its members desires to bring forward, especially the administration of the Native Fund.

The Native Fund is devoted to purely native purposes, e.g., native education, improvement of native stock, water supply in native reserves, and an annual contribution to the cost of eradication of lungsickness in cattle. The revenue of the fund is obtained by an annual tax of 5s. on every native liable for hut tax.

II.—FINANCE.

The total revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1929, amounted to £142,246. As compared with the previous year increases aggregating £5,684 were shown under the heads Hut Tax (£2,479), Customs (£1,183), Licences (£635), Revenue Stamps (£37), Judicial Fines (£28), European Poll Tax (£164), Native Fund contributions (£116), and Miscellaneous—including interest (£1,042), whilst decreases amounting to £11,349 were reflected under the heads of Posts (£4,654), Income Tax (£6,582), Rents and Transfer Duty (£113).

The total expenditure amounted to £143,346, which was £23,362 in excess of that for the preceding year. The increases were incurred mainly on Public Works (£21,006), Medical (£2,336) and Miscellaneous (£1,130), while smaller increases were shown under the heads District Administration, Posts, Education,

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Veterinary, and Allowances to Chiefs. Decreases aggregating £4,066 were reflected under the heads Resident Commissioner, Police, Administration of Justice, and Pensions.

The following table furnishes the totals of the revenue and expenditure and the accumulated surplus balances for the past five years :—

Financial Year.	*Total Revenue.*	*Total Expenditure.*	*Surplus Balances.*
	£	£	£
1924–25	99,576	87,372	39,021
1925–26	107,345	104,122	42,244
1926–27	131,568	108,223	65,589
1927–28	147,911	119,984	93,516
1928–29	142,246	143,346	92,416

During the year a further sum of £1,188 was lent to settlers at 5 per cent. interest per annum, repayment of capital being spread over a period of five years. One loan of £50 was granted for building a dipping tank, and six loans aggregating £1,138 were given for waterboring operations.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The natives of the Bechuanaland Protectorate are mainly engaged in cattle rearing. The distribution, among the various tribes, of pure-bred bulls and cows purchased out of a fund maintained by the natives themselves, and the restriction of cattle exportations to the Union of South Africa to a certain weight of animal, have contributed in different ways to the improvement of native stock. For veterinary reasons the export of cattle to the Union is further restricted to consignments intended for approved abattoirs and (without restriction as to weight) for export overseas, while to South West Africa and Southern Rhodesia it it absolutely prohibited. Subject to authorisation from the Inspeçao dos Serviços Veterinarios in Loanda being previously obtained, there is unrestricted export of cattle to Angola.

Cattle may be exported through Northern Rhodesia to the Belgian Congo provided that they are certified by a qualified veterinary surgeon as being themselves clean and as coming from an area which has been free from transmittable disease for a period of six months. In the case of N'gamiland or Ghanzi cattle, they must also have travelled to the border of the territory along a road free from the tsetse fly and their blood undergone a microscopic examination at the border. A quarantine is imposed on entrance of such cattle into Northern Rhodesia and, in order to conserve the grazing there, only a limited number is allowed to cross annually. In the case of cattle from the Tati (Francistown) District, export is only allowed of purely Tati cattle, and no cattle may leave the train in Northern Rhodesia; up to the present time, however, no Tati cattle have been exported under this regulation.

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At Sakania, Belgian Congo, a further quarantine is imposed on all cattle entering the Colony.

At the beginning of 1930, a cattle export from N'gamiland was opened to the copper mines in Northern Rhodesia under practically the same restrictions as apply to cattle export through that territory.

As a result of all these restrictions, some of which are of recent imposition, the cattle trade is not yet as flourishing as it might be.

An inspection fee of 1s. a beast is levied on all cattle exported from N'gamiland and the Caprivi Strip, as a contribution towards the cost of the services rendered in order to satisfy the above-mentioned veterinary restrictions.

The figures for export of cattle to the Johannesburg abattoirs are 8,316 head, which represents a still further decrease on the export which existed prior to the introduction of the increased weight standard imposed by the Union Government. The decrease of 2,808 on the previous year is more than accounted for by the fact that the Bechuanaland Cold Storage Company, in order to average up weights to comply with the terms of their contract overseas, bought large numbers that would have passed the Union weight standard for home consumption.

The increase in the number of cattle exported overseas is 8,112, this year's figures being 16,846, the highest yet reached.

The number of cattle exported to Angola dropped from 2,752 to 1,106, the decrease being due to fluctuation of contracts.

A similar reason may be assigned to the decrease in the export of cattle to the Belgian Congo from 5,882 to 4,405.

The total export for 1929 was 30,673, being an increase of 2,181 head on the previous year.

Exports of small stock to the Union and Rhodesia show a slight decrease, this year's figures being 14,703.

Pigs, which are mainly exported to Johannesburg, remain at approximately 2,000.

Prices for Protectorate cattle were fairly good for three parts of the year, but during October, November, and December there was a sharp decline owing to increased supplies from the Union itself.

Export figures in respect of hides, skins, and karosses are not available for 1928, as at that time traders' returns were still rendered for the financial year ending on the 31st March. The exports of hides and skins for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1929, were 1,436,304 lb. value £73,842; for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1929, they were 1,288,629 lb. value £43,206. The explanation of the large decrease in value is that the overseas price which governs the market has experienced a tremendous fall since early in 1928, due in part to prices then having reached an abnormally high level and in part to a demand for a better cured article than the Protectorate can at present produce.

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The export of skins of wild animals and karosses show a continued decrease in value. The figures for the period 1928-1929 were 54,697 lb. value £14,550 and for 1929 were 59,758 lb. value £14,052. It is understood that towards September the market for these articles, which is mainly in the United States of America, became over stocked.

Dead trees continue to be exported as firewood, to Kimberley, Mafeking and the Lichtenburg diamond diggings. Figures as regards the last mentioned export are not available, but are understood to be decreasing; the figures for Kimberley and Mafeking have increased from £1,076 to £1,923 in value.

The only minerals at present produced are gold and silver in the Tati (Francistown) District: 1,725 oz. of gold and 162 oz. of silver valued at £7,256 as against 1,748 oz. of gold and 141 oz. of silver, valued at £7,344 in the previous year. Only one small proposition is now being worked, though some slimes are being treated.

The working of the asbestos deposits in the Bangwaketsi Reserve does not appear to have yet passed beyond the prospecting stage. More prospectors are working, and a Company formed in the Union sent a boring machine to drill holes to test the depth of the formation. The result of the tests is not known, but present indications *in loco* are that the deposits pinch out and that the mineral is not found in sufficiently thick seams to give promise of a profitable proposition. No mining, properly so called, has yet taken place, though the concessionaire is, of course, selling the samples of asbestos which he produces while prospecting, as he has been legally advised that this is not mining.

Considerable work has been done with a view to locating commercial deposits of asbestos in the Tati District following the discovery made there in 1928. In the geological survey of the Tati Territory now completed, all the various outcrops of serpentine (the mother rock of asbestos) have been mapped down and further prospecting on this information may be carried on later with a view to locating deposits on a commercial scale. At present work has ceased.

Ivory to the value of £764 was exported.

The expectation that, owing to drought, the crops of cereals sown at the end of 1928 in the Francistown, Kweneng (Bakwena), Ngwaketsi (Bangwaketsi), Lobatsi, Kgalagadi, and Ghanzi Districts would fail was realized, except that in the Ngwaketsi District 500 bags of Kaffir corn were reaped, though no maize survived. In the Chobe (Kachikau), Tuli Block, and Gaberones Districts, however, there were fair harvests. On the other hand the Bamangwato (Ngwato District) reaped such good crops that large numbers of them have a reserve in hand and have not ploughed for this season. They did not offer much grain for sale owing to the Chief forbidding this. Prices offered were for mealies or Kaffir corn 8s. to 10s. a bag of 200 lb., and as the price is generally

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paid in goods this may be reckoned at approximately 6s. a bag. Except in the Ngwato District for the reason stated and in the Ghanzi and N'gamiland Districts, where drought continues, and possibly the Kweneng District where rains fell very late, the prospects for the cereal crops during this season are excellent. In the Tuli Block District farmers generally are now concentrating on cattle fodder, and cowpeas have proved a successful venture. Similar developments are noticed in the Francistown District and the following reports are worth quoting :—

> "*Napier Fodder.* Did very well, and considered would make good feeding for winter as it can be cut several times in a good season, and then fed off as pasture.
>
> "*Teff.* From about an acre and a-half several loads of hay were reaped."

Under the aegis of the Veterinary Department four experimental plots of woolly-finger grass (*Digitaria eniantla*) were grown at Serowe, Palapye Road, Tuli Block, and Imperial Reserve, Mafeking, and gave excellent results. As this grass is indigenous to the territory and is a great drought and frost resister, retaining 14 per cent. of proteids during the driest periods as against 3 per cent. of ordinary fodder grasses the cultivation of this grass is strongly recommended.

There were no locusts reported in the Protectorate during 1929, and the Army Worm has not made an appearance in the territory this season, though extremely destructive in Rhodesia and the Transvaal.

Cotton.—Mr. Macleod of the Francistown District, who had previously raised successful crops, obtained a small quantity of U 4 cotton seed from the Department of Agriculture, Salisbury, but all was ruined by excessive rains. No other result is reported from the territory.

Tobacco.—No tobacco was grown in the territory during 1929 for commercial purposes except in the Francistown District. Here the Turkish tobacco which had previously survived the drought was this year not a success, and Mr. Macleod, the only farmer who grew it, made all his leaf into native tobacco. Generally it is considered that tobacco is not a commercial proposition in the present state of the market.

Dairy Produce.—An assistant to the Dairy Expert and Inspector was engaged in September.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate is rapidly building up a dairy industry which will not only bring regular prosperity to the territory, but will be a valuable economic asset.

During the past year attention has also been devoted to the development of the poultry industry, and results show that there is every hope of successful poultry keeping being established.

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The road motor service from Debeeti Station serving all the Tuli Block and adjacent native creameries commenced running, and has assisted greatly in the rapid marketing of both cream and poultry products.

During November, Mr. W. A. Elder, O.B.E., Chief Veterinary Officer and Agricultural Adviser for Swaziland, visited the Bechuanaland Protectorate to study conditions of native dairying. Mr. Elder was taken on a tour of the chief centres of production by the Chief Veterinary Officer.

Cream Production.—Cream production shows a slight decrease, being 445,648 lb. of butterfat, as against 458,747 lb. during the previous year.

If it had not been for the general adoption of the silo pit, and the increased saving of winter fodder, a much more serious drop would have occurred.

Although, generally speaking, good rains fell during the milking season, the cattle were weak from the preceding drought, and were slow to come into full milk.

The calving percentage was also unsatisfactory in many districts.

Early and plenteous rains in the Union of South Africa caused lower cream prices, owing to the necessity of exporting butter to the overseas market.

Notwithstanding these various handicaps the cream industry brought into the territory a total of £35,504 19s., being £31,964 9s. 10d. for butterfat and £388 4s. 6d. for farm butter, and £3,156 4s. 8d. being in respect of the increase value obtained by manufacture at the Lobatsi Creamery Butter Factory.

At the Bulawayo Agricultural Show, Protectorate cream producers were successful in carrying off both first and second prizes in the class for one gallon of cream suitable to be manufactured into a first grade butter.

Native production shows a big increase of 47,209 lb. of butterfat and £2,983 9s. 1d. in value, namely from 66,951 lb. of butterfat valued at £4,914 17s. 8d. to 114,160 lb. of butterfat valued at £7,908 6s. 9d.

It is regrettable that the quality of the native production has fallen off, but this will be corrected by intensive instruction now that the staff of the Dairying Branch has been increased.

Many of the natives who are now creaming had never even seen a separator, prior to their commencing operations, and since they are very keen to learn, it is only a matter of instruction to make them competent dairymen.

A study of the Development Statistics shows strikingly the rapid expansion of the native cream production.

Butter Production.—The territory's only butter factory situated at Lobatsi continues to make good progress and has added considerably to the value of the territory's output.

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The output for the year was 378,748 lb. of butter which found ready sale.

By supplying separators, cans, and general dairy equipment on extended terms to producers, including natives, this factory continues to assist the development of the dairy industry.

Cheese Production.—The cheese making Districts have had an unfortunate season.

Grazing has been very scarce due to local droughts, whilst neighbouring territories, strong competitors in the cheese market, enjoyed good rains and large production. Low prices ruled for the greater part of the season.

Despite these drawbacks, and aided by great improvement in quality, the cheese production amounted to 105,029 lb. realizing £5,515 15s. 2d.

A Tati exhibitor at the Salisbury Agricultural Show was successful against strong competition in winning the Floating Silver Challenge Trophy for export cheese. This was a very noteworthy achievement and a matter of great congratulation to Protectorate cheese producers.

Show Results.—

Bulawayo :—Three first, two second prizes.

Salisbury :—Floating Silver Challenge Trophy, value 20 guineas.

Extension Work.—The winter feed campaign was successfully continued, the past season amply demonstrating its great value. Reserves of fodder not only kept cattle alive, but maintained them in a strong condition ready for immediate production when rain fell.

Where adequate supplies of forage had been saved, winter production was also possible, and very profitable.

Ensilage was the main stand-by, but the cultivation of such other winter feeds as spineless cactus gave encouraging results.

Individual instruction was given to the cheese maker and cream producer whenever possible.

It is intended to concentrate on the improvement of the quality of the cream supply during the coming year. Improved quality of production must be the aim of every producer.

It has been found that native producers are quite willing to pay up to £5 for a well-bred calf, whereas they will not pay the price of a grown bull of good breeding. The progeny of bull calves, whose purchase was advised in the years 1926-1927, are beginning to show up their quality, and are excellent propagandists.

There is in some European areas a tendency to breed too fine a type of dairy cow, an animal that the territory is not best suited to support, unless ample provision is made for times of scarcity both as regards food and water. Although the ultimate aim should

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be towards keeping a high-class dairy animal, care must be taken that the farm development keeps pace with the improvement in the quality of cattle kept.

It is useless expecting cattle which pick up their entire living off the veld for 12 months of the year, and at times have to walk great distances to water, to be heavy producers.

Home Consumption.—Efforts have been concentrated on improving the domestic supply of fresh milk, butter, cheese, eggs, and other poultry products with very gratifying results. It has even been possible to arrange for supplies of fresh milk and butter in comparatively remote areas such as Kanye and Serowe.

Poultry.—Returns received from 39 settlers who have taken up poultry keeping show that 9,150 dozen eggs were sold valued at £673 15s. and 779 head of poultry realizing £83 9s. 5d. This forms a very useful and profitable side-line.

There were many importations of highly bred birds and eggs, especially in the Tsessebe area, the influence of which will be quickly shown on the standard of stock kept.

The most popular breeds are the White Leghorn, Rhode Island Red, and Australian Black Orpington, whilst Black Minorcas also have their admirers.

The breeding of ducks and turkeys offers scope for further profits, and is being energetically advocated.

Advice has been given regarding proper breeding, feeding, and housing, and it is hoped to make the poultry industry contribute largely to the progress and wealth of the territory.

Road Motor Service.—A road motor service was introduced on 15th July, running between Debeeti Station and African Ranches in the Tuli Block, a distance of 129 miles.

The possible establishment of motor services in other areas is under consideration, as only if full utilization is made of up-to-date methods of business, such as quick and cheap transportation, proper organization, modern methods of production and manufacture, and correct marketing, can the products of the territory compete successfully with similar products of our neighbours.

STATISTICS.

1st January to 31st December, 1929.

BUTTER-FAT PRODUCTION.

	lb.	lb.
First Grade.		
European	273,056	
Native	25,832	
		298,888
Second Grade.		
European	40,235	
Native	34,541	
		74,776

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BUTTER-FAT PRODUCTION—*cont.*

	lb.	lb.
Third Grade.		
European	18,197	
Native	53,787	
		71,984
Total Butter-fat.		
European	331,488	
Native	114,160	
Grand total		445,648

FACTORY BUTTER MANUFACTURED.

	lb.
Ex Registered Butter Factories	378,748

FARM BUTTER	4,736

WHOLE FRESH MILK.

	gal.
Supplied to hotels, trains, etc.	4,659

CHEESE PRODUCTION.

	lb.
Cheddar	89,635
Gouda	15,394
Total ...	105,029

POULTRY PRODUCTS FROM EUROPEAN SETTLERS.

	£	s.	d.
Poultry (779 head)	83	9	5
Eggs (9,050 dozen)	673	15	0
Total ...	£757	4	5

VALUE OF DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Europeans.

	£	s.	d.
Butter-fat	24,156	3	1
Cheese	5,515	15	2
Farm Butter	388	4	6
Whole Fresh Milk	377	9	10
Factory Butter (being increased value due to manufacture)	3,156	4	8
	33,593	17	3

Natives.

Butter-fat	7,908	6	9
Total ...	£41,502	4	0

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REGISTRATIONS.

	No.
European.	
Cheese Factories and Creameries combined ...	13
Creameries	144
Butter Factories	1
Stores Handling Dairy Produce	8
Milk Sellers	4
Native.	
Creameries	198
Milk sellers	297
Coloured.	
Creameries	9
Total ...	674

EUROPEAN CREAM PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT.

Butter-Fat.

Grade.	1926–1927. *April–March.* lb.	1927–1928. *April–March.* lb.	1928. *January–December.* lb.	1929. *January–December.* lb.
First	307,521	240,962	304,393	273,056
Second	48,523	61,637	63,275	40,235
Third	40,650	18,603	24,128	18,197
Total ...	396,694	321,202	391,796	331,488

Grading Percentages.

Grade.	1926–1927. *April–March.* per cent.	1927–1928. *April–March.* per cent.	1928. *January–December.* per cent.	1929. *January–December.* per cent.
First	78	75	78	82
Second	12	19	16	12
Third	10	6	6	6

NATIVE CREAM PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT.

Butter-Fat.

Grade.	1926–1927. lb.	1927–1928. lb.	1928. *January–December.* lb.	1929. *January–December.* lb.
First	4,252	16,623	28,090	25,832
Second	8,608	18,623	31,434	34,541
Third	33,316	8,253	7,427	53,787
Below Grade ...	6,156	24	—	—
Total ...	52,332	43,523	66,951	114,160

Grading Percentages.

Grade.	1926–1927. per cent.	1927–1928 per cent.	1928. *January–December.* per cent.	1929. *January–December.* per cent.
First	8	38	42	23
Second	16	43	47	30
Third	64	19	11	47
Below Grade ...	12	under 1	Nil.	Nil.

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Chief Exports for Last Five Years.

	1925–26.		1926–27.		1927–28.		1928–29.		1929.	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£		£
Kaffir Corn ... ... bags	6,403	2,815	3,989	4,122	1,659	1,121	38	23	739	427
Mealies ... ... bags	11,859	5,654	2,888	1,546	—	—	—	—	910	587
Cheese ... ... lb.	687	31	134,611	6,730	114,387	7,149	116,421	5,130	105,029	5,516
Bacon and Hams ... ... lb.	—	—	—	—	1,947	142	88	5	2,250	115
Butter ... ... lb.	339	20	768	51	5,415	541	208,652	20,850	383,688	34,089
Eggs ... ... doz.	9,534	405	7,665	289	12,580	810	24,512	807	15,222	1,038
Cattle ... ... head	33,563	144,686	31,889	159,445	30,050	137,569	33,784	157,087	30,673	141,148
Sheep and Goats ... ... head	11,921	8,457	13,364	11,359	16,407	12,800	12,571	9,442	14,703	10,748
Pigs ... ... head	612	2,180	1,674	3,348	1,410	2,215	946	1,568	868	2,089
Hides... ... ... lb.	918,665	27,025	2,283,506	41,660	1,506,635	66,870	1,375,242	68,833	1,209,602	40,346
Skins (Sheep and Goats) ... lb.	97,549	2,743	91,875	3,599	69,374	3,556	61,062	5,009	79,027	2,860
Skins and Karrosses (Wild animals). No.	68,192	10,456	55,643	12,840	72,990	16,814	54,697	14,550	59,758	14,053
Butter Fat and Cream ... lb.	340,966	22,082	449,036	26,535	364,725	28,008	288,232	22,906	239,691	17,977
Firewood ... ... tons.	4,013	3,194	6,971	5,773	3,338	1,942	1,418	1,070	2,505	1,923
Gold ... ... oz.	3,672	15,432	3,807	15,979	2,063	8,656	1,686	7,074	1,725	6,932
Ivory ... ... lb.	—	902	—	396	1,586	639	609	365	2,134	764

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IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

There is practically no internal trade in the territory. Generally speaking, traders have dealings in the main with firms in the Union or Rhodesia. In a few isolated instances there are direct importations from Great Britain, Belgium, India, and elsewhere overseas, but in the absence of Customs statistics no particulars can be given. The export trade almost wholly comprises cattle, small stock and their by-products, and, as it is governed by more or less arbitrary conditions, it has been more conveniently dealt with under the heading of " Production " as heretofore. To what was stated there the following paragraph may be added here.

The cattle trade in the Tuli Block would be more lucrative if sales of stock (other than pedigree stock) for breeding purposes in the Transvaal could be allowed by the veterinary authorities. Such an embargo has for long prevailed against the entry of such cattle into the Southern Protectorate, but this has now been removed. This should improve the prospects of the Tuli Block settlers, who have always taken great pains to improve their cattle, in spite of the absence of a market for breeding stock. The Ghanzi District is perhaps the finest cattle-rearing country in the territory, and the cattle trade there is severely restricted as regards outlet, a difficulty which the Administration has now resolutely set itself to remove. It is the only industry upon which the European inhabitants can depend for a livelihood.

Since the set-back recorded in the 1928 Report in respect of the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1928, there has been no improvement in the value of general merchandise imported, which for the twelve months ended the 31st March, 1929, stood at £234,918, and for the year ended December, 1929, at £237,674. There have been in general throughout the territory three years of comparative drought in succession, and natives have had to spend their money in the purchase of food instead of other goods. The one break in the drought, last season's bumper harvest in the Ngwato District, did not help trade, as the Bamangwato Chief required his people to store their surplus grain and do little or no buying at the trading stores. Purchases of cattle and other live-stock remain at a low figure, but the increased use of motor cars continues to swell the value of vehicles imported, now returned as £12,315. Cereals brought into the territory in 1929 were valued at £17,539. The total imports were £288,228 as against £288,224 for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1929, and the exports £292,702 against £318,057 11s. 8d.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

There are four money-order savings banks and telegraph offices in the territory, viz., at Lobatsi, Serowe, Francistown and Mahalapye. Besides these, there are five postal-order and telegraph agencies, all on the railway line, and fourteen postal-order

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agencies. The postal work at all of these is controlled on behalf of the Administration by the Postmaster-General of the Union of South Africa; the telegraph work by the Postmaster-General of Southern Rhodesia, to which Government the telegraph lines along the railway line belong (except those constructed by the Railway Company), as well as a telegraph-telephone line from Serowe to Macloutsie and Fort Tuli. Lobatsi is connected with the trunk telephone system of the Union, and Mochudi with the railway line, these telephone lines being controlled by the Postmaster-General at Pretoria.

During the year 1928-29 the issue of postal and money orders totalled 13,901 with a value of £8,400 as against 13,780 valued at £9,243 during 1927-28.

In 1928-29, 4,108 orders were paid out to the value of £4,630 as against 4,276 valued at £3,985 in the previous year.

The rate of postage on letters posted within the territory for delivery therein or for delivery in the Union of South Africa, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, and the Province of Mozambique is 1d. for each ounce or fraction thereof; to Great Britain and Northern Ireland and other British Possessions 2d. for each ounce or fraction thereof.

Agricultural post services at low rates have been instituted with the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia.

The main line of the Rhodesia Railways, Limited, 400 miles in length, runs through the eastern portion of the territory. This is the only line of railway.

At present the roads from railway stations and sidings to the principal villages serve for motor transport. Of these, the best of any considerable length is from Palapye Road to Serowe, constructed by the Serowe Automobile Club, and other good roads, constructed by the Administration, now run from Gaberones to Molepolole, from Hildavale and from Lobatsi to Kanye, and from Kanye to Molepolole. A tolerably good road for motor traffic all the way from south to north of the territory is in being, one deviation thereof having been made in the Gaberones District where the portion which used to touch the Transvaal border at Sequane has been diverted between Pilane and Debeeti into the Railway fire path. The motor road between Kazungula on the Zambesi River and Maun in N'gamiland is now so good that the journey is usually done by car in three days and has been done in thirty hours. Having regard to the huge size of the territory and its exiguous resources, the Administration cannot as yet attempt more than rendering safe for motor traffic as many as possible of the existing tracks through the bush along the principal routes. On the sandy tracks where the going is heavy travelling is done by means of Cape Carts and ox wagons but this is almost impossible in the extreme north during the tsetse fly season.

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VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

JUSTICE.

The number of cases adjudicated upon by officials of the Administration during the year 1929 was 518 as against 1,090 in 1928.

There were two cases of homicide; of these one was acquitted and the other sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour. There were 36 cases of other offences against the person, in 32 of which conviction followed; 101 offences against property, with 93 convictions; and 379 prosecutions for other offences, in which 348 convictions followed.

POLICE.

The existing establishment is as follows:—

1 Inspector.
6 Sub-Inspectors.
25 European Non-Commissioned Officers.
1 Native Drill Corporal.
50 Native Mounted Police
215 Native Dismounted Constables.

No Officers course was held during the year at the South African Police Depot, Pretoria.

Three squads of dismounted constables were passed through the Native Training Depot at Gaberones with very satisfactory results.

Legislation affecting the Police.—Nil.

PRISONS.

There is nothing to report in respect of the prisons of the territory for the year 1929.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Buildings.—The building programme commenced during the latter part of the previous year has been completed. In addition, the construction of a modern and up to date hospital at Lobatsi was begun and the building is now nearing completion. The building of quarters for the Medical Officer, Tuli Block, has been postponed pending final selection of a suitable site.

Wells and Water Supplies.—Investigations have been commenced with a view to improving the general unsatisfactory state of the water supplies of the territory. There seems to be a general decrease in the various sources of supply. Several wells were deepened and two wells were sunk on the western edge of the Kalahari and work on two other wells could not be undertaken owing to the severe drought.

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Operations connected with the drill on the Molepolole-Ghanzi cattle route across the desert have been very slow owing to breakdowns and lack of efficient transport. During the year three boreholes were sunk. The first at Kudamalapye yielded a good supply of fresh water; the second, at Lenake, proved a failure and the third, at Kuke, has afforded a copious supply of water though slightly brackish. Kuke is at a distance of about 116 miles from Molepolole, the last station on the eastern edge of the Kalahari. Approximately seven boreholes have to be sunk over the remaining 200 miles before reaching Ghanzi.

Purchase of another drill, primarily for use by farmers was not effected until the end of the year.

Roads and Bridges.—Funds to cope with the demands of the territory have been limited to an extent which has rendered progress negligible. The various District roads were maintained as far as possible by the Resident Magistrates. A rough survey was made in connection with a necessary 80 mile deviation on the main North road through the territory.

Considerable maintenance work was undertaken on the Road Motor Service Cream Traffic Route from Debeeti to the Tuli Block.

A deviation of the main wagon road from Victoria Falls to Maun to give a fly-free route was completed.

The only bridge work undertaken during the year was a concrete culvert-battery low level bridge on the Notwani River at Gaberones, which successfully withstood several heavy floods in a short period after completion. This bridge has proved a great boon to the public in the district.

Fencing.—Approximately 45 miles of fencing was undertaken on behalf of the Rhodesia Railways on the 300 miles of railway line through the territory.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the Protectorate during the past year was better than that of 1928, due to malaria not having assumed the form of a severe epidemic, which it did in that year. With the exception of an extensive outbreak of measles at Serowe, a small outbreak of smallpox north of Francistown and some cases of influenza and cerebrospinal meningitis in N'gamiland, the territory has been very free of infectious diseases.

Owing to the difficulty of keeping in close touch with the large native population living remote from the District Officers, no records are kept of births and deaths, and therefore no data are available from which to draw up vital statistics.

Syphilis continues to be the disease for which the largest number of the natives seek assistance. 2,045 presented themselves for treatment. In view of the very widespread infection of all the tribes in the Protectorate, one would have expected that, with the

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giving of free treatment, larger numbers would have sought assistance, but in this, as in other diseases, the local Chief, who exercises great influence, is to a great extent the determining factor by his advice and encouragement to his people to go to the Medical Officer for medical aid, or not.

Malaria maintained its seasonal endemic character, being most active in the late summer and autumn months, after the summer rains. Owing to the limited medical personnel, no systematic malarial survey has yet been made. The following table showing the case incidence attending the dispensaries gives some indication of the areas most liable to malarial infection :—

	Cases of Malaria treated.	*Percentage of Malaria to total cases treated.*
		Per cent.
Gaberones and Molepolole	341	19.47
Francistown	188	7.69
Mochudi	493	11.89
Tuli Block	145	24.35
Serowe	96	13.41
Maun	60	9.42
Ghanzi	27	20.15
Kanye	*—	—
Total	1,350	12.95

These figures, which represent a fraction of the total number of people affected, and who have not sought medical aid, indicate to some extent the distribution, which is dependent on the summer surface collections of water in the vicinity of the occupied areas. Though Maun shows only 60 attendances for malaria, the Medical Officer reports that, judging from the splenic enlargements, almost every native has been affected, at one time or another, with the disease.

Most of the houses occupied by the European officials are more or less mosquito-proof, and where they have to travel they are supplied with mosquito nets. On all stations where malaria is prevalent, Government employees are required to take a prophylactic dose of quinine (grains 5) daily, and by this means the working capacity of the officials at Gaberones and Maun, where malaria is probably worse than at any of the other stations, has been maintained; though the complaint of mild attacks of discomfort and

* Kanye returns not yet received.

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being " off colour " with very little elevation of temperature, would indicate that there is an infection of which the acute manifestations are suppressed by the taking of these small doses of quinine regularly.

Scurvy.—Though there has been no serious outbreak of scurvy, 253 cases attended the dispensaries, a number which indicates the frequency of scurvy in most parts of the territory. The Medical Officer at Maun had eleven cases under his direct observation, with three deaths. He reports that the incidence is specially marked when the Makuba from the upper reaches of the Okovango River, who normally eat large quantities of roots and aquatic plants, have to spend any length of time at Maun when they are unable to obtain these plants. The resistance of these Makuba to scurvy seems to be very definitely deficient as compared with other natives, e.g. Hereros from South West Africa, who do not develop scorbutic symptoms under the same conditions. At Mochudi the District Medical Officer reports no cases, because, under the progressive influence and guidance of the Acting Paramount Chief of the Bakhatla, the natives grew a certain number of green vegetables which contributed not only to the anti-scorbutic value of the diet, but to the general well-being of the population.

Smallpox.—There was a recurrence of smallpox in the Caprivi Strip (which in the latter part of 1929 was transferred to the South West African Mandatory Administration). A Medical Officer, who was sent to investigate and deal with the outbreak, reported 302 cases, the majority of which had occurred prior to his investigations. The disease was mild in character, conforming more to alastrim than to variola. Sixteen deaths occurred in the affected area. No cases occurred in the neighbouring portions of the Bechuanaland Protectorate proper.

During the months of April to August there were outbreaks in villages north of Francistown (Ramaquabane and Tsessebe). One hundred and twenty-three cases were reported, with 16 deaths. With the enforcement of quarantine measures and vaccination of contacts the outbreak was stamped out. During the latter part of the year individual cases occurred at Saas Post and Mahalapye. Prompt measures smothered the spread.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis.—In N'gamiland a considerable and widespread number of cases of this disease occurred. The Medical Officer at Maun personally dealt with 14 cases, 13 of whom died. Apart from these, several other deaths in outlying villages were reported. From evidence collected it would appear that the disease has existed for some years in a more or less endemic character, and either it was not brought to the notice of the Authorities, or, if it was, it was not recognized as such. Probably the former conjecture is correct, due to the activities of the native doctors, who have

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been known definitely to oppose and prevent people from seeking the advice of the European doctors. The distribution has been such that the Medical Officer in charge of that area is of opinion that the illness follows the trade route from the Zambesi through Kachikau and Maun to Tsau and the surrounding areas. Propaganda among the Chiefs has been widely resorted to, and it is hoped that the natives will report early cases and take the advice necessary to prevent a spread.

Influenza.—Most of the cases reported occurred sporadically. The only locality where it took an epidemic form was in N'gamiland in July. In Maun and the surrounding villages 128 cases occurred, all of a mild character, and no deaths resulted.

Plague.—No cases have occurred in the Protectorate, but in view of the widespread distribution throughout the Union of South Africa and of the fact that, from reports made from surveys of rodent infection by the Health Department of the Union, rodent infection occurs along the Union borders of the south-west corner of the Protectorate, which lacks geographical or other barriers to prevent the spread of infection to the veld rodents of the Protectorate, vigilance is maintained. Two Rodent Inspectors continually patrol the south-western borders, investigating any abnormal number of deaths among these animals and keeping in touch with the European and native inhabitants, obtaining information regarding rodent mortality and keeping the population alive to the urgent necessity of reporting any abnormal disease or death rate among the rodents. Each of these Inspectors has made five to six complete tours of the area allotted to him, and has rendered monthly reports of his investigations to the Medical Officer at Gaberones who attended a special course of instruction in anti-plague measures under the Union Department of Health. During the year there was no evidence of rodent infection in the territory.

For the first time, as far as can be ascertained, the following two infectious diseases have made their appearance in the Bechuanaland Protectorate :—

Relapsing Fever.—One case occurred in December at Molepolole. It was confirmed by microscopic examination. The source of infection could not be ascertained.

Bilharzia (*Schistosomiasis*).—One case is reported from Mochudi and five from Lobatsi. The condition is known to be widespread in South Africa, but this appears to be the first time it has manifested itself in this territory. All the cases were observed in December and the source of infection has not yet been determined.

The most serious problems with regard to the general health of the population are efficient water supplies, and anti-malarial measures.

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Water supplies.—At most of the Government stations and in the native towns and villages this essential commodity of life is very inadequate. Most of the water supplies are wells sunk in the low-lying valleys. Many of these are through a stratum of lime and other mineral salts and the water from them is brackish and unpleasant. The average native well is from 20 to 60 feet deep, from which the water is drawn up by a bucket attached to a cord. This, in the later winter and spring, constitutes the only source of water for all domestic purposes and for watering cattle—a laborious effort which militates against the native population maintaining normal cleanliness of themselves and their clothing, and makes it impossible for them to grow vegetables. A very serious aspect of these wells is that the underground water level appears to be receding and each year three or four more feet have to be added to the depth of the wells. The proposed use of Government drills for water-boring throughout the Protectorate should in time go far towards enabling the native population to have a reasonable supply of water for domestic and other purposes.

Anti-Malaria Measures.—For financial reasons it has not been possible to undertake systematic measures of dealing with the breeding places of mosquitoes, and at present, knowledge of the particular *Anopheles* which acts as the vector is practically nil.

Sanitation.—The sanitary arrangements for European inhabitants are primitive but effective, consisting of the bucket earth closet. The "Wembley" bucket system instituted at Francistown and one or two other stations is proving most satisfactory and might in time prove so efficient and hygienic as to replace entirely the ordinary bucket system, which, if not properly carried out, very easily becomes a source of nuisance and possible danger, where flies are prevalent.

Native sanitation is of the most primitive. Except for three or four earth pit closets erected at Serowe by the Chief, the neighbouring bush or donga supplies all their requirements. At their cattle outposts and in sparsely occupied areas this system, though not ideal, is efficient owing to the action of the sun's rays and scavenging animals and insects; but in large townships such as Serowe, where houses are built in close proximity over an area of two or three miles in each direction, the situation is distinctly unpleasant, if not dangerous. Fortunately, up to the present, water-borne diseases, like the enteric group, have been conspicuous by their absence.

During the year no cases of typhoid fever were reported for the whole Protectorate. This fortunate state of affairs is probably a matter of chance, and one cannot count on its continuance; and

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the intention of the Administration is to investigate ways and means to provide for a more hygienic state of affairs in the native townships.

Courses in hygiene and elementary physiology are given to the upper classes at the National School at Mochudi.

Taken as a whole the standard of living of the Bechuanaland native is below that of most of the natives of South Africa. No doubt malaria is an important contributing factor. One of the Medical Officers, in his report, says of the natives in his district: "The majority of the people are rotten with the infection (malaria) and chronic malarial pains are a common complaint." Can one wonder that, with such a physical disability and its resultant mental lethargy, they only make such efforts as will supply them with the absolute bare necessities of life—this in turn lowering their resistance to malaria when it comes their way? The class of houses they occupy are mostly mere hovels, badly covered with grass, and quite incapable of being rendered mosquito proof. However, with the example of a few of the most progressive of the race who have taken up dairy farming and who are making a very profitable living, and with the elevating effect of education at the mission and other schools, it is hoped that in time they will make greater efforts to raise their standard of living and thus be able to withstand infection when it comes.

Hospitals and Dispensaries.—Gaberones, Francistown and Serowe temporary hospitals continued to function as heretofore, supplying such medical and surgical assistance to the natives as could be given with limited nursing facilities in unsuitable buildings. The new Hospital at Serowe is complete and will be ready to function as soon as the water supply is installed. It comprises male and female native wards of twelve beds, and with the verandah space available, it will be capable of accommodating twenty natives. Besides this there are five single wards for Europeans. There is a good operating theatre, and it is hoped during the next year to erect a small X-Ray plant. It will be staffed by two European nursing sisters and native nurses, male and female.

The Southern Hospital is in course of construction at Lobatsi. It is identical in plan with that of the Serowe Hospital and will be staffed on the same scale. A separate outpatient building will be constructed 100 yards from the hospital building. The water supply for the Lobatsi Hospital, which should be amply sufficient for all purposes, is obtained from a bore hole 400 yards away. As Lobatsi is on the main railway line, the hospital will supply the needs of a very extensive area.

Both hospitals will have electric light installations and sewage will be water-borne with septic tanks.

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The total returns for the year are as follows :—

	Inpatients.		Outpatients.	
	Hospital Admissions.	*Deaths.*	*Individual Cases.*	*Total Attendances.*
Mafeking	14	—	—	350
Gaberones and Molepolole.	47	2	1,751	4,283
Francistown ...	15	1	2,444	6,108
Serowe	94	5	*716	*2,162
Tuli Block	—	—	598	598
Mochudi	—	—	4,146	10,176
Maun	—	—	637	637
Ghanzi	—	—	134	134
Kanye	†—	—	—	—
	170	8	10,426	24,448

IX.—EDUCATION.

During the year 1929 there were in the Bechuanaland Protectorate ten schools for European children, attended by approximately 250 pupils, two coloured schools at Francistown and Molepolole with a total enrolment of 48 pupils, and 90 native schools with an attendance of approximately 7,000 pupils.

The schools, both European and native, are, as a rule, under the control of School Committees, which are presided over by the Magistrate of the District. During the year Regulations were published which set out the constitution and duties of such committees in the case of European schools. There are no secondary European schools, either for industrial or academic work, within the Protectorate, but, subject to certain conditions, special bursaries are now awarded to a limited number of pupils who pass standard V and standard VI at the Protectorate primary schools. These bursaries awarded are ten in number and are of the value of £30 per annum. They entitle 5 pupils to proceed, after passing standard V, to schools outside of the Protectorate, where there are facilities for academic work of a secondary nature; and five pupils after passing standard VI to proceed to special schools for industrial, agricultural or vocational training. Subject to certain conditions these bursaries are tenable up to the end of the year in which the child attains the age of eighteen. To regularize the secondary bursaries already held under the previous system the Administration, as a special case for this year only, also granted, as a result of a competitive examination, ten bursaries, again of the value of £30 per annum each, to children of permanent residents within the Protectorate, who, owing to various causes, e.g., health, and distance from a Protectorate school, had found it necessary to have their children taught during the primary stage at schools outside the

* Owing to loss of Outpatient Register, these figures are from 16th August to 31st December.

† Kanye returns not yet received.

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Protectorate. Approximately £400 was expended during the year under this head.

Grants for primary education of £16 a head per annum are available for children of European residents, from the age of 5 to 14 or until they have passed standard VI, and a sum of approximately £896 was expended on these in 1929.

The syllabus of instruction used in the primary European schools is, except for slight modifications, identical with the code used in Southern Rhodesia, and this year the Education Department of that Colony conducted part of the standard V examination, which was held in all primary schools. The results of the examination showed that the work being done is well up to standard in most respects.

The native schools, with the exception of the salary of the Principal of the National School at Mochudi, which is paid out of general revenue, are mainly financed from the Native Fund, and in addition to their contribution to the Native Fund the Bamangwato tribe (Khama's people) defray almost entirely the expenses of their school at Serowe, which is an up-to-date school building, with excellent equipment, a large attendance, and a reputation for work of a high standard.

Omitting the Desert and Lake areas the distribution of native schools is as follows :—

Lobatsi Block	3 Schools (Under Committee).
Gaberones Block	2 Schools (Under Committee).
Kanye Area	8 Schools (Under Tribal Committee).
Molepolole Area	10 Schools (Under Tribal Committee).
Mochudi Area	10 Schools (Under Tribal Committee).
Serowe Area	28 Schools (Under control of London Missionary Society).
	3 Schools (Under control of Tribe).
Francistown Area ...	11 Schools (Under control of London Missionary Society).
	6 Schools (Under control of Church of England).
	1 School (Under Government control).
	82 Schools.

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As in the case of the European schools so the Native schools are mostly under the control of a Committee in each tribal area, the personnel of the Committee being generally composed of the Resident Magistrate as Chairman, representatives of the leading Missionary Societies engaged in educational work within the area, the native chief, and his nominees. These Committees at the moment control appointments and expenditure, see to repairs to old buildings and the erection of new ones, and attend to matters of equipment, etc. They are of great value in the educational system for natives, who feel that they have direct contact with educational work. There is not as yet any institution within the Protectorate where Bechuana teachers are trained, but the Administration makes from General Revenue and from the Native Fund a total grant of £300 to the Tiger Kloof Institution in the Cape Province specifically for the training of teachers. There are besides, grants of £300 from General Revenue and £90 from the Native Fund to the London Missionary Society towards native education.

The code of instruction at present in use is that employed by the Cape Provincial Educational Department for native schools, but it has been necessary to make slight modifications which are designed to meet the special needs of the native population of the Protectorate, particularly in respect of more attention to the vernacular (Secwana) in all classes, and in the direction of fostering and improving in the schools the arts and crafts peculiar to the Bechuana people. There will doubtless be in the near future a special code for the Protectorate which may be said to have grown out of the Code at present in use.

School work as regards the teaching of the vernacular is handicapped by the fact that there are but few books in the vernacular which have been specifically designed as text books for school use, but once the somewhat vexed question of Secwana orthography has been settled it will doubtless be found that the London Mission Society, which has already published so many excellent books in connection with religious work, Secwana grammar, dictionaries, and one or two school books, will doubtless take up the burden of providing the Schools with adequate and up-to-date school literature.

During the year under review it has been possible for the Inspector of Education to visit most of the native and European schools situated within a distance of 40 miles east and west of the railway line running through the Protectorate; and during the coming year arrangements will be made for him to visit some of the schools situated in the more remote areas.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEYS.

Primarily, all the lands in the Protectorate belonged to the several native tribes to be found within its border, except that sovereignty over what is generally known as the Tati Concession,

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or Tati District, was claimed by Chief Khama of the Bamangwato and by the Matabele Chief Lobengula. In 1895, on behalf of their respective tribes, the Chiefs Khama, Sebele and Bathoen abandoned certain territory. By Order in Council dated the 16th May, 1904, the territory thus abandoned was declared Crown lands and vested in His Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa, who was empowered to make grants or leases thereof on such terms and conditions as he might think fit, subject to the directions of the Secretary of State.

An Order in Council passed on the 10th January, 1910, added to the Crown lands above mentioned all other land in the Bechuanaland Protectorate elsewhere than in the Tati District, with the exception of (1) land included in any native reserve duly set apart by Proclamation, or the subject of any grant made by or on behalf of His Majesty, and (2) the 41 farms known as " the Barolong Farms," and vested such lands in the High Commissioner subject to the provisions of the Order in Council of the 16th May, 1904.

The doubts as to the ownership of the lands in the Tati District were resolved by an Order in Council passed on the 4th May, 1911, which vested these lands in His Majesty and empowered the High Commissioner to grant them to the Tati Concessions, Limited, in full ownership. This grant was effected by Proclamation No. 2 of 1911, including the right to all minerals and precious stones under the land.

The boundaries of the 41 Barolong Farms (which comprise all the land reserved to the Barolong Tribe within the Protectorate) were defined by Proclamation No. 1 of 1896. The boundaries of the Bamangwato, Batawana, Bakwena and Bangwaketsi tribes were defined by Proclamation No. 9 of 1899 as amended by Proclamations Nos. 14 of 1907 and 55 of 1908 in respect of the Bakwena, and of the Bamalete tribe by Proclamation No. 28 of 1909. With the exception of five farms that had already been granted to pioneers by native chiefs, and certain land retained for Government purposes, the Crown Land along the eastern border of the Protectorate was granted to the British South Africa Company by Proclamations Nos. 4, 12, and 13 of 1905.

Certain settlers, to whom the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes had, under the Charter of the British South Africa Company, granted tracts of land in the Ghanzi District, were in 1898 and 1899 confirmed in their holdings by the High Commissioner on certain conditions, including the payment of an annual quit-rent at the rate of £5 per thousand morgen (a morgen = 2.1165 English acres).

Apart from trading sites, which usually do not exceed 50 yards by 50 yards in extent, ten farms of 1,000 morgen each and one of 5,000 morgen have been leased by the Government to European settlers at an annual rental of £5 and £25, respectively. These leases are renewable annually. As a rule, preference is

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given to persons of European descent who are already domiciled within the territory.

Under an Agreement between the Administration and the Imperial Cold Storage and Supply Company, Limited, signed in June, 1925, 250,000 morgen of Crown land on the northern bank of the Molopo river has been placed at the disposal of the Company free of charge for twenty-five years, in consideration of the Company having agreed to erect cold storage and refrigerating works within the territory and to purchase a minimum of 10,000 Protectorate cattle annually for use in such works.

The Crown lands remaining comprise about 108,000 square miles.

The British South Africa Company and the Tati Company, Limited, have disposed of, to European settlers, a considerable quantity of the land placed at their disposal by the above-mentioned Proclamations.

No surveys have been made of any land within the territory, except where such land has been granted to private corporations or individuals.

There are no irrigation works on any large scale within the territory. Apart from the rivers Marico, Limpopo, Zambesi, and Chobe, and apart from the Okovango marshes and their outlets, there are practically no surface waters, except in the rainy season. The Rhodesia Railways, Limited, have constructed several dams in connection with the working of the railway line, viz. :—

	Capacity in gallons.
Lobatsi	... 15,000,000
Metsimaswaana (Notwani Siding) ...	... 45,000,000
Mileage 1197	... 5,000,000
Palapye	... 15,000,000
Tsessebe (Inchwe river)	... 12,000,000
Pilane	... 9,000,000

Water-boring and well-sinking operations undertaken in the neighbourhood of the railway line and at Serowe by the Administration, farmers and others have generally yielded good results. In March, 1928, the services of the Chief Boring Superintendent of the Union (Mr. F. E. Leeson) were lent to the Administration by the Union Government, and much useful advice towards this end was obtained from him. A tour through the Tati District by the Southern Rhodesian Boring Superintendent (Mr. C. A. Anderson) was arranged with his Government in May, and his advice was given to the farmers there and to the Tati Company. Chief Isang Pilane of the Bakgatla Tribe has been particularly enterprising in boring for water in his Reserve. After the £500 appropriated from the Native Fund had been expended, he devoted £1,200 of tribal money to the purpose. Out of 16 holes sunk, seven yielded excellent results at no great depth.

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Several attempts have been made by the Administration to open up the underground waters to the west in the Kalahari Desert. These have so far yielded only meagre results, but the Administration has not been in a position to offer very attractive terms, taking into consideration the geographical and other physical difficulties of the case. When water is struck it is sometimes too brackish. The opinion, however, has often been expressed that by deep boring plentiful supplies of good water will be found, and the waterless useless tract of land now known as the Kalahari Desert may yet be transformed into one of the finest ranching countries in the world.

The arrangements made by the Administration for water boring in the Kalahari Desert have so far resulted in water being found at Kuchi (Kuke) about 116 miles north-west of Molepolole at 180 feet. The boring machine is now at work at Kika, 30 miles north-west of Kuchi. Both the last-named places are on Captain Clifford's route outside the Bakwena Reserve.

XI.—LABOUR.

Labour conditions, as understood in Europe and America, have scarcely as yet developed in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Such little labour as is required by European firms and residents is regulated by the old Masters and Servants Acts of the Cape Colony as in force in the territory. For native tribal purposes from time immemorial necessary labour has been performed by "regiments," through which all, high and low, must pass and which must obey the chief's orders. There is nothing of servitude about it; it is a matter of self-help and utility and tribal discipline. Payment is made to the individuals for their labour in the event of tribal labour being used for Government purposes.

No native labour is imported into the territory.

Labour for service on the Witwatersrand gold mines, the Natal coal mines, and the diamond mines of South West Africa is recruited under the conditions imposed by the Native Labour Proclamation No. 45 of 1907 as subsequently amended, which amply protects the liberty of the labourer. Only in the case of South West Africa may labour be engaged from the tropical regions lying north of latitude 22° South. Many natives find their own way from the Southern Protectorate to the adjacent diamond diggings.

XII.—VETERINARY.

Contagious Pleuro Pneumonia.—No cases of the disease have occurred anywhere in the territory during the year.

The quarantine on the area lying between Mohembo and Namasseri in N'gamiland, which has been in existence for two years, was raised in September.

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Some 1,000 head of incontact cattle left over from the Letlokhane outbreak were removed under escort to the permanent quarantine camp in January, 209 of which were marketed in October.

Anthrax.—Seventeen thousand head were inoculated by the Staff prior to export overseas, and numerically branded to indicate the month of inoculation, with the result that no cases were recorded *en route* to the Coast.

The beneficial effect of the free issue of anthrax vaccine to native owners is now apparent, and only nine outbreaks of this disease were recorded throughout the territory during the year.

The inoculation was widely employed in the Bamangwato Reserve, the Serowe area alone utilizing some 25,000 doses out of a total of 116,000 issued.

Quarter Evil.—Many deaths could be prevented if the young stock running on infected veld were inoculated.

During the year the Union Government issued a formalized vaccine, which took the place of the old filtrate, and the results of the new vaccine are reported as uniformly good.

Calf Paratyphoid.—This disease has again been of a particularly virulent type, and caused heavy losses during the year, particularly in the Lobatsi and Tati areas.

Fortunately a vaccine has been produced at the Onderstepoort Laboratory which is giving satisfactory results. Up to the present the use of the vaccine has been in the experimental stage, for which reason it was issued gratis on the condition that the disease had been diagnosed by a veterinary surgeon and that the farmer gave a detailed report of its effect.

These reports are now coming to hand and indicate that a culture can be grown and inoculated which produces a strong immunity.

Contagious abortion.—Cases occurred on several farms at the south end of the Tuli Block and were dealt with in the usual manner.

Heartwater.—Occasionally causes heavy losses. One farmer in the Lobatsi District who imported grade stock from the Free State, lost twelve out of a consignment of thirteen animals from this disease.

The injection of Liquor Arsenicalis for this disease, although not a specific, has been found of considerable assistance. Short intervals and regular dipping is the best preventive to-day.

Scab.—During February and March the Administration co-operated with the Union Government and carried out a simultaneous dipping of smallstock along the southern border. 445 flocks were handled, containing 8,614 sheep and 10,696 goats. Of

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this number, twenty-five flocks containing 1,025 sheep and 842 goats were found to be infected, but this infection was entirely confined to the sheep.

No case of goat scab was seen.

Tsetse Fly Disease.—The Government has at present under consideration the adoption of active measures in N'gamiland in order to combat this disease, and is endeavouring to obtain the services of a qualified and experienced expert on trypanosomiasis to conduct investigations on the spot and to prepare a detailed scheme setting forth the lines on which the work should be carried on.

Cattle Export.—Good rains fell in the early months of the year, and the present season, if a little late in some parts, has opened well.

Market prices were good at the beginning of the year, and were maintained throughout the winter; but during October, November, and December, usually the best from the Protectorate point of view, there has been a decided slump.

Some exceptionally good native cattle were exported from the Nata River area, which produced £16 per head at Johannesburg.

The Bechuanaland Cold Storage Company bought freely throughout the year for export overseas, and in order to average up weights to comply with the terms of their contract overseas, bought large numbers of cattle that would have passed the embargo standard fixed for consumption in the Union.

The percentage of animals produced for inspection and rejected as not complying with the Union requirements (1,050 lb. oxen, 790 lb. cows) was 31 in the north and 32.37 in the south.

The numbers of cattle exported to all destinations show an increase of 2,181 on the previous year:

	Head.
To the Johannesburg Abattoir	8,316
To the Belgian Congo, via Kazangula	4,405
To Angola	1,106
To Durban for export overseas	16,846
Total ...	30,673

SMALL STOCK EXPORTED.—

	Head.
To the Union, via Ramathlabama	1,294
Direct to the Johannesburg Abattoir	535
To Rhodesia	12,874
Total ...	14,703

PIGS.—Permits to export 2,108 were issued.

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The following animals were imported.—

	Head.
Cattle	2,452
Horses	563
Mules	250
Pigs	282
Donkeys	2,502

Vaccines supplied to Bechuanaland Protectorate Stock Farmers were :—

	Doses.
Anthrax Vaccine	116,264
Quarter Evil	14,899
Horse Sickness Serum and Virus	48
Redwater and Gallsickness	67
Wire Worm Remedy	4,400
Blue Tongue	70

XIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

N'GAMILAND FLOODS, 1929.

Reported by the Resident Magistrate, N'gamiland, dated Maun, 14th January, 1930.

The rainfall during the 1928-29 rainy season was very little. From and including September, 1928, to 30th April, 1929, it amounted to 13.71 inches.

I have no record of the fall at Andara but it must have been below normal. The Okovango River was two feet below normal at Andara in February, 1929. It rose two inches during that month and a further six inches in March, continuing to rise until the end of April. It did not reach its maximum flood-level for 1928 by six inches.

The flood waters reached the Boro River on 14th July, and during that month the Tamalakane River rose rapidly.

No water reached the Lake and it did not pass very far beyond Makalamabedi in the Botletle River.

The flood waters did not reach Tsau.

The Tamalakane River is now at the lowest level it has been for very many years.

A similar condition exists on the Chobe and Zambesi Rivers.

There was no flood in the Caprivi Strip during the period under review.

I am instructing the Non-Commissioned Officer to fix a gauge post in the river at Mohembo and to report to this office the rise and fall in the river at the end of each month.

C. L. O'B. DUTTON,
GOVERNMENT SECRETARY.

16th April, 1930.

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STATE OF BRUNEI

REPORT FOR 1929.

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REPORT

ON THE

STATE OF BRUNEI

FOR THE YEAR

1929

BY

P. A. B. McKERRON,

British Resident, Brunei

SINGAPORE:

Printed at the GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, SINGAPORE,
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Sketch Map of Brunei

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THE STATE OF BRUNEI.

REPORT OF THE BRITISH RESIDENT FOR THE YEAR 1929

Preface.

HISTORY.

A State named Puni, 45 days' sail from Java, is mentioned several times in the annals of the Sung dynasty, which ruled over Southern China from about 960 to 1280 A. D., and it is practically certain that this is Brunei. In the 13th and 14th centuries Brunei owed allegiance alternately to Mejapahit and Malacca. The Sultanate rose to great power in the early years of the 16th century in the reign of NAKODA RAGAM and its authority extended not only over the Northern part of the Island of Borneo but over the Sulu Islands and part of the Philippines.

The first European account of Brunei is that of PIGAFETTA, who visited it in 1521, and was greatly impressed by the splendour of the Court and the size of the Town, the population of which he estimated at 25,000 families.

Towards the end of the 16th century the power of Brunei began to decline and by the middle of the 19th century it had fallen hopelessly into decay and only a small part of its former territory remained. Sarawak was ceded to Sir JAMES BROOKE in 1841 and concessions were made at later dates to the British North Borneo Company and to the Sarawak Government till Brunei has been reduced to its present boundaries.

In 1888, the Sultan agreed that Great Britain should control his foreign relations and in 1906 a new agreement was made whereby a British Resident was appointed who became the Agent and Representative of His Britannic Majesty's Government under the High Commissioner for the Malay States and whose advice must be asked and acted upon in all questions other than those touching Mohammedan religion. This followed the system existing in the States of the Malay Peninsula under British Protection. The Secretary to the High Commissioner in Singapore is the channel of communication between the Resident and the High Commissioner. The Resident is invariably an officer of the Malayan Civil Service.

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The present Sultan who was born on 30th Ramadan, 1331 A. H. (8th September, 1913) is His Highness AHMED TAJUDIN AKHAZUL KHAIRI WADIN ibni Almerhum Sultan MOHAMED JEMALULALAM, K.C.M.G., and succeeded his father in September, 1924. During his minority the Duli Pengiran BENDAHARA and the Duli Pengiran PEMANCHA have been appointed to act as Joint Regents.

GEOGRAPHY.

The State of Brunei comprises an area of some 2,500 square miles, with a coast line of about 120 miles and lies between 4° 5′ and 5° 2′ N. latitude and 114° 7′ and 115° 22′ E. longitude. Brunei Town is distant by sea 758 nautical miles from Singapore.

It is subdivided for administrative purposes into five districts, Brunei, Tutong, Belait, Temburong and Muara. There is only one town of any size Brunei or Dar-ul-Salam (City of Peace) which is situated 12 miles from the mouth of the Brunei River at Muara and has an estimated population of 13,000. Prior to 1910 it consisted entirely of Malay houses built on nibong piles in the river but it now includes a strip of the mainland, mostly reclaimed, on which all Government buildings, shophouses and many private houses have been erected.

CLIMATE.

The climate is pleasant and healthy without any marked changes of temperature. During the day the temperature lies between 80° to 90° Fahrenheit but a light breeze is generally blowing which moderates the heat. At night the temperature usually falls below 80°.

The average annual rainfall varies between 100 to 200 inches for different parts of the State.

LANGUAGES.

The langua franca is Malay which differs slightly from that generally spoken in Malaya but the local Bornean races, the Kedayans, Tutongs, Belait, Dusuns and the Muruts have languages of their own.

CURRENCY.

The currency is that of the Straits Settlements. The unit is the silver dollar which is divided into 100 cents. The value of the dollar is fixed at present at two shillings and four pence. Subsidiary silver coins are those of value 50 cents, 20 cents, 10 cents and 5 cents. There are also nickel 5 cent coins and copper or mixed metal coins of 1 cent denomination. There are also currency notes of different denominations from $1 upwards.

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WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

English and Malay weights and measures are used. A pikul (equivalent to 133⅓ lbs.) is subdivided into 100 katties of 16 tahils each. One tahil consists of 10 chis or 100 hoons and is equivalent to 1⅓ ounce avoirdupois. A koyan consists of 40 pikuls and is equivalent to 5,333⅓ lbs. avoirdupois. A gantang is the equivalent of one gallon and a chupak is equal to a quart.

I.—General.

1. His Highness the Sultan and Their Highnesses the Regents all enjoyed good health throughout the year.

2. His Highness the Pengiran BENDAHARA visited Singapore in August and was present at the opening of the Naval Floating Dock by His Excellency the High Commissioner for the Malay States.

3. Mr. R. J. F. CURTIS, M.C.S., was British Resident till 25th August when he was succeeded on his return from leave by Mr. P. A. B. MCKERRON, M.C.S.

4. His Highness the RAJAH OF SARAWAK paid a short informal visit to Brunei in November. Among other visitors during the year were the Right Reverend the BISHOP OF LABUAN AND SARAWAK, the Honourable Dr. HOOPS, Principal Civil Medical Officer, Straits Settlements and RAO SAHIB SUBBAIA NAIDU, the Agent for the Government of India in Malaya.

II.—Finance.

5. The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year provided for a revenue of $354,350 and an expenditure of $341,018. Budget for 1929.

6. The actual revenue obtained was $345,290 and the expenditure was $344,092.

7. There was a small surplus therefore on the year's working against an estimated surplus of $13,332. A further shrinkage in the Opium revenue, which was $12,000 less than was obtained in 1928, was mainly responsible for this decrease.

8. The following figures give a comparison of the revenue and expenditure of the State for the past five years:—

	Revenue	*Expenditure*
	$	$
1925	315,261	245,286
1926	367,344	297,894
1927	402,134	426,981
1928	354,762	344,005
1929	345,290	344,092

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9. The Abstracts of Revenue and Expenditure for the years 1927, 1928 and 1929 are shown in Appendix *A* and Appendix *B* respectively.

Assets and liabilities.

10. The surplus of Assets over Liabilities on Revenue Account at the end of the year amounted to $198,052.

11. The following statement shows the Assets and Liabilities at the end of the past two years:—

	31st December, 1928		31st December, 1929	
LIABILITIES	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Deposits				
Land Office	3,390 48	...	2,729 73	
Money Order ...	5,527 86	...	9,472 56	
Miscellaneous ...	35,178 28	...	16,864 14	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund ...	45,791 13		63,722 58	
		89,887 75		92,789 01
Surplus of Assets over Liabilities	...	196,854 44	...	198,052 66
Total ...	...	286,742 19	...	290,841 67
ASSETS				
Investment				
State	20,000 00		18,550 00	
Opium Revenue Replacement Reserve Fund ...	45,791 13		63,722 58	
		65,791 13		82,272 58
Loans (secured) ...	...	53,057 50	...	29,666 64
Advances	...	1,308 63	...	697 60
Suspense	...	12,290 00	...	11,778 79
Cash in Treasury and Bank	...	154,294 93	...	166,426 06
Total ...	...	286,742 19	...	290,841 67

Opium Revenue Replacement Fund.

12. This fund was started in 1926 with $12,261.12 provided out of revenue, and invested in England in various Government securities. An amount equal to 20 per cent. of the annual nett revenue from the sale of chandu together with accumulated interest has been added each year. The contribution for 1929 was $15,361.38. On 31st December, 1929, the Fund stood at $63,722.58.

Public Debt.

13. The Public Debt of the State on the 31st December, 1929, totalled $407,000.

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14. The following is an Assets and Liabilities Statement in respect of this Debt:—

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES—LOAN ACCOUNT
(31ST DECEMBER, 1929)

Dr.		Amount	Cr.		Amount
		$			$
31-12-1929, Balance due to F. M. S. ...	399,000		*To* Redemption of Monopolies (1906—1908) ...		72,009
Capital Repaid ...	40,750		„ Purchase of Tulins (1906—1909) ...		7,045
		439,750	„ Purchase of Cession Monies (1908—1924) ...		174,377*
			„ Capital Expenditure—	$	
			Launch (1906) ...	20,000	
			Residency (1906—1907) ...	8,000	
			Government Buildings, Brunei and Districts (1906—1907) ...	10,339	
					38,339
			„ General Purposes		106,980
			„ Loan to His Highness the Sultan (made in1909)		41,000
TOTAL ...		439,750	TOTAL ...		439,750
31-12-1929, Balance due to S. S. ...	8,000		*To* Purchase of Cession Monies ..	13,546*	
Capital Repaid ...	12,000		„ Purchase of Political Pensions granted in Settlement of Tulin Claims ...	6,454	
TOTAL ...		20,000	TOTAL ...		20,000
GRAND TOTAL ...		459,750	GRAND TOTAL ...		459,750

* The total expenditure on the purchase of Cession Monies from other than Loan Funds and not included above amounts to $80,870.

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III.—Production.

AGRICULTURE.

Rubber.

15. Rubber is the chief agricultural product of the State. 1,027 tons of a value of $742,999 were exported as against an export of 745 tons valued at $581,265 in 1928.

16. The acreage under rubber is estimated to be 9,000 acres, of which about 4,000 acres belong to four European Estates, and the remainder to Asiatic smallholders. The rubber in bearing on the native holdings is generally of very poor quality, but some of the later planting which took place in the 1926/27 "boom" period, and which will shortly be coming into bearing, shows an improvement.

Rice.

17. The padi (unhusked rice) crop totalled approximately 494,000 gantangs reaped from area of approximately 5,200 acres. Of this area about 1,200 acres consisted of wet padi and it is very satisfactory that at last the Kedayans and the Tutongs, who form the bulk of the agricultural population are beginning to realise the advantages which this form of padi cultivation has over the sporadic and wasteful methods of hill padi cultivation so extensively practised by them and their forefathers in the past.

18. During the year the Government with the assistance of the Malayan Agricultural Department obtained supplies of seed of varieties which have been tested in the Federated Malay States and this seed has been planted in five experimental plots in the various agricultural districts. The heathiness of these new strains was apparent from the beginning, and at the end of the year the prospects that excellent crops would be obtained were very bright. The effect of this demonstration of Government's interest in wet padi cultivation has been to induce other agriculturists to try it too, and the area planted with wet rice at the end of the year will almost certainly prove to be a record for the State. Much depends on the yields obtained from the Government plots—if these turn out to be as big as they look like being, it can be safely predicted that wet padi cultivation will have come to stay and every year will see extensions to the area planted.

19. Rice imports decreased from 35,509 to 27,754 pikuls.

Sago Palm.

20. Large areas of sago palm have been planted up and are worked by the natives of the Tutong, Belait and Temburong Districts. The export of sago flour amounted to 3,000 pikuls, but the prices ruling throughout the year were so low that the total value of this export only amounted to $13,000. Even with the price as it was, however, the natives of the Tutong District seemed to find that it paid them better to work their sago lands than tap their rubber holdings.

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FORESTS.

21. The revenue amounted to $6,275 as against $6,804 collected in 1928.

22. The exports of jelutong totalled 78 tons only as compared with 109 tons in 1928. The jelutong market in Singapore was depressed throughout the year and very poor prices were obtained.

23. Apart from jelutong, the other main source of forest revenue is obtained from firewood cut for local consumption.

24. There are undoubtedly extensive areas of excellent timber in the Ulus of the Tutong, Belait and Temburong Rivers. These have practically not been touched, but before they could be exploited commercially, if a market could be found for the timber, a large amount of clearing of rivers and streams would be required to enable it to be extracted economically. A proper Forest Department would also have to be constituted, which is still beyond the financial resources of the State.

INDUSTRIES.

Cutch.

25. The Island Trading Company, Limited, which has been established in Brunei Town since 1900 exported 2,085 tons of bark extract valued at $183,583 as compared with 2,086 tons valued at $179,104 in 1928. In the manufacture of this amount, 9,033 tons of firewood were consumed. Most of this bark now comes from areas outside the State, but arrangements were being made at the end of the year to open up a new area in the Bira River in the Belait District, which the Company has never worked before.

Native industries.

26. There are two native industries of importance, the making of brassware and silverware, and they are more or less restricted to certain families or guilds. The best known products of the former are the gongs, for which the State is famous.

Silverware.

27. The output of the silversmiths has tended more and more of recent years to include articles copied very successfully from European models, such as cigarette boxes and cases, finger bowls, brooches, etc., and quite a flourishing trade is done in these along the Borneo coast and in Singapore. The value of silverware exported in 1929 was over $15,000.

Weaving.

28. A large amount of weaving is done by Brunei women. Their chief product is the cotton sarong of which one thousand three hundred and seventy four pieces were exported during the year. The sarongs manufactured are mostly of cotton, although a certain number of silk ones are also produced, and compare very well both as regards

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lasting qualities and fastness of dye with those produced in Trengganu and other places in Malaya where this native industry still flourishes.

Fisheries.

29. The Bruneis are essentially fishermen, and plentiful supplies of good and cheap fresh fish are always to be obtained. Most of the fishing is done in the estuaries of the rivers running into the Bay. The fishermen seldom venture very far to sea. The principle export consists of dried prawns, and the amount exported increased from 900 pikuls in 1928 to over 2,000 pikuls in 1929. As there is undoubtedly a good market for dried prawns in Singapore, this promising local industry should be capable of further development.

MINING.

Oil.

30. Oil was first found in 1914 at Labi in the District of Belait. The British Malayan Petroleum Company, Limited, which is allied to the Sarawak Oilfields, Limited, obtained a lease of this area in 1924. The original well is still producing oil, but the Company has not been fortunate with the wells which it has sunk since, although one or two of them are, or rather could be developed as, excellent natural gas producers.

31. The Company has also been prospecting for the past 5 or 6 years in the coastal area of Belait District, and its operations in this area are now reaching an interesting stage. In April oil was found at Seria (about 10 miles North-west of Kuala Belait) and the well is still producing, although with a somewhat diminished flow. Several "Rotary" wells are now in the process of being drilled in the immediate vicinity, and great hopes are entertained of success. One large "Rotary" well is also being drilled in Brunei territory between the Belait River and the Sarawak frontier. This well had reached a depth of over 3,000 feet at the end of the year.

32. The Company transferred its headquarters from Labi to Kuala Belait early in the year. A wharf, an office, a workshop and several semi-permanent houses for staff were completed during the year. Electric light was installed, and an ice plant has been ordered.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

33. The aggregate value of trade for the year was $2,735,628 as against $2,443,815 in 1928. The greatly increased rubber exports were mainly responsible for this increase, although the average value of the rubber itself was considerably lower.

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34. Tables showing the principal imports and exports for the years 1927 to 1929, and a comparative statement showing the distribution of trade by Districts are given in Appendix *C* and Appendix *D* respectively.

35. The total revenue from Customs Duties was $132,502 an increase of $3,563. A revision of the import duties on tobacco, petroleum and matches to a higher scale with effect from 1st August, 1929, was responsible for this increase. Customs revenue.

36. The collections in each District were as follows:—

District	Export Duties			Import Duties		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Brunei	37,827	22,233	18,488	50,303	48,665	53,241
Belait	15,663	9,965	12,619	16,585	18,143	21,615
Tutong	8,361	7,437	6,262	6,116	3,790	4,346
Temburong	19.363	10,375	8.005	7,937	6,430	7,926
Muara	1,720	938	Included in Brunei	2,737	1,053	Included in Brunei
TOTAL ...	82,934	50,858	45,374	83,678	78,081	87,128

37. The following new or amended duties were imposed during the year:— Duties.

		$	c.	
Exports—				
August ...	Orang Utan, per head	250	00	
December	Poultry, per head ...		20	
	Dried prawns, per pikul	3	00	
	Sago Flour, per rice sack		20	
Imports—				
August ...	Matches, per tin of 120 packages ...	4	00	
	Petrol, per gallon ...		10	
	Chinese and Native Tobacco, per katty		60	
	Manufactured Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes, per pound ...		60	
December	Machinery and Electrical Equipment ...	5%		*ad valorem.*
	Motor car tyres, tubes and accessories, British	2½%		,,
	Motor car tyres, tubes and accessories, Foreign	5%		,,

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38. The following duties were cancelled during the year:—

Exports—

August	...	Attap
		Eggs
		Kirai
		Sugar.

Imports—

August	...	Beads, buttons, toys and tinselware.
		Baskets.
		Cutlery, domestic
		Dyestuffs, British
		Furniture
		Glassware
		Lead
		Leather goods
		Photographic materials
		Pigs.

Chandu.

39. The amount of chandu sold was 9,250 tahils as compared with 11,464 tahils for last year. The net revenue was $67,360, a decrease of $12,087.

40. The retail sale of chandu is entirely in the hands of the Government. A system for the registration of chandu smokers was introduced. There were 458 registered smokers at the end of the year. The system is working satisfactorily, and there is no doubt that it will have the effect it was intended to have of progressively reducing the amount of chandu consumed by the Chinese in the State.

V.—Communications

SHIPPING.

41. Steamers drawing up to 12 feet can, except at time of very low tide, reach Brunei Town. Approval was obtained in October for the construction of a reinforced concrete wharf to replace the old wooden one. The new wharf, the construction of which was begun in December, will have a

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depth of nearly 18 feet at Mean Low Tide. This provides a greater depth of water than is actually required at present, but it is hoped that it will eventually be possible to deepen and improve the existing channel at the mouth of the river to admit vessels of greater draught.

42. There are bars at the mouths of the Belait and Tutong Rivers which limit navigation to vessels drawing over 6 feet.

43. Communication by steam and motor launches is regularily maintained between Brunei Town and Labuan. The passage takes about 4 hours.

44. The Straits Steamship Company, Limited, provides a weekly mail service between Labuan and Singapore. This passage takes about 4 days.

ROADS.

45. The 30 miles of earth road between Brunei and Tutong, with the extension to the beach at the Tutong end, were kept in good repair throughout the year. By prohibiting bullock-cart traffic, and closing the road altogether during and for some hours after heavy rain, the surface continues to stand up very well. A considerable amount of widening was done, and several of the worst gradients were improved. For financial reasons the metalling programme had again to be curtailed drastically, and only about one mile of track metalling was completed.

46. Brunei is fortunate in possessing what must be some of the finest stretches of continuous sandy beach in the world. Early in the year a Government motor-bus was put on the 35 mile stretch between the Tutong and the Belait Rivers and by means of it overland traffic (passengers and mails) was maintained without a break till the end of the year. The Sarawak Government in conjunction with the Sarawak Oilfields Limited, constructed during the year a similar connection by the beach between Belait and Miri, so that it is now possible to travel at a suitable state of the tide the whole way from Brunei to Miri by car, a distance of just on 100 miles.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

(*A*).—Post Office.

47. The revenue amounted to $8,149.89 as compared with $8,869 in 1928. Dealers and collectors purchased stamps to the value of $1,266.19. The expenditure was $5,159.62 as against $4,030 in 1928. Financial.

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Postal.

48. The following gives a comparison between business transacted in 1927, 1928 and 1929:—

——	1929	1928	1927
Letters, papers and parcels received ...	52,994	45,723	42,470
Do. do. despatched	22,979	26,689	21,842
TOTAL ...	75,973	72,412	64,312

49. Details of the business transacted during the year are as follows:—

LETTERS				Postcards	Printed Matters	Parcels
Registered	Paid	Service	Taxed			
			OUTWARD			
1,661	26,689	1,260	1,729	677	18,682	2,296
			INWARD			
3,394	17,084	1,788	260	92	91	270

Money Order.

50. Three hundred and fifty-three Money Orders were issued to the value of $12,542.23 and one thousand and twenty-seven Cash-On-Delivery parcels were received to the value of $16,222.43. Forty-nine Money Orders to the value of $886.31 were received and cashed during the year.

Telephones.

51. There is a public telephone service in Brunei Town, but it is practically confined to the Government Offices and residences of officials. An effort, however, is being made to induce the neighbouring Estates to subscribe to the service, and it is also the intention to construct a line to Tutong (30 miles) in 1930.

52. The British Malayan Petroleum Company, Limited, was given permission to construct telephone line along the beach from Kuala Belait to the Sarawak frontier and telephonic communication with Miri was established in the latter part of the year. The Company also constructed lines to link up their headquarters at Kuala Belait with their Field Headquarters at Seria and Rasau.

General.

53. Mr. LEONG AH NG, who has acted as Postmaster for nearly 19 years, retired on pension at the end of the year.

54. The Post Office at Brunei is now electrically lit.

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(*B*).—Radio-Telegraphs.

55. The number of messages handled by the Department during the year totalled 4,680 as compared with 4,594 in 1928 and 4,988 in 1927. Messages.

This figure is made up as follows:—

(*a*) Internal Service 2,493

(*b*) Cable Service 1,010

(*c*) Sarawak Service 1,177

56. Tables are appended showing the comparison between the traffic figures of 1927, 1928 and 1929.

INTERNAL TRAFFIC.

	Messages handed in and transmitted from:					Total number of messages dealt with	Average number of messages per mensem in		
	Brunei	Labuan	Labi	Temburong	Kuala Belait		1929	1928	1927
Government	568	474	72	124	187	1,425	118·8	106·0	111 0
Public Prepaid	204	267	363	75	159	1,068	89 0	89·0	59·6
Total ...	772	741	435	199	346	2,493	207·8	195·0	170·6

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EXTERNAL TRAFFIC

(EASTERN EXTENSION TELEGRAPHS COMPANY, LTD., LABUAN)

	Messages transmitted from:					Messages received at:					Total number of messages dealt with	Average number of messages per mensem in:		
	Brunei	Labuan	(Labi)	Tem-burong	Kuala Belait	Brunei	Labuan	(Labi)	Tem-burong	Kuala Belait		1929	1928	1927
Government ...	45	...	...	...	...	29	...	...	...	...	74	6·1	8·7	7·7
Public Prepaid ...	258	...	12	7	16	632	...	5	6	...	936	78·0	60·0	87·6
TOTAL ...	303	...	12	7	16	661	...	5	6	...	1,010	84·1	68·7	95·3

(BRUNEI SARAWAK SERVICE)

	Messages transmitted from:					Messages received at:					Total number of messages dealt with	Average number of messages per mensem in:		
	Brunei	Labuan	(Labi)	Tem-burong	Kuala Belait	Brunei	Labuan	(Labi)	Tem-burong	Kaula Belait		1929	1928	1927
Government ...	60	17	...	2	1	56	17	6	1	1	161	13·4	9·0	13·0
Public Prepaid ...	55	317	190	15	35	99	177	85	31	12	1,016	84·7	110·2	136·0
TOTAL ...	115	334	190	17	36	155	194	91	32	13	1,177	98·1	119·2	149·0

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57. The revenue of the Department amounted to $3,391.36 as compared with $3,403.88 in 1928. Financial.

58. The number of words in messages sent on Government Service amounted to 17,100 which at ten cents per word would have a value of $1,710.

59. The total expenditure, including Personal Emoluments amounted to $9,346.62 as compared with $6,539 in 1928.

60. The five Stations operated, *viz.*, Brunei, Labuan, Temburong, Labi (Belait) and Kuala Blait, maintained an uninterrupted service throughout the year. Efficiency.

61. A ¾ K. W. Petter Electric Generating Set was purchased and installed at the Labuan Station early during the year. The old 3·5 K. W. Austin set has been removed and installed as a stand-by plant at the Brunei Station.

62. The Wireless Station erected in 1928 by the British Malayan Petroleum Company, Limited, at Kuala Belait was dismantled, and its place was taken by a new Government Station which was opened to traffic in August. General.

VI.—Justice, Police and Prisons

(A).—JUSTICE AND CRIME.

63. The Courts constituted in the State for the administration of Civil and Criminal justice are the Court of the Resident, the Courts of the First and Second Class Magistrates and the Courts of the Native Magistrates and Kathis. The Court of the Resident exercises original and appellate jurisdiction in all civil and criminal matters. The Supreme Court of the Colony of the Straits Settlements has original jurisdiction in the case of offences punishable with death and appeals lie to it from the Court of the Resident in certain civil and criminal matters. Courts.

64. The following table shows the number of cases instituted and disposed of in the various Courts:—

District	Resident's Court		First Class Magistrate's Court		Second Class Magistrate's Court		Total
	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	
Brunei ...	...	13	66	45	36	238	398
Tutong ...	...	...	1	13	32	71	117
Temburong ...	...	...	3	1	...	21	25
Belait ...	...	...	20	20	62	135	237
Muara ..	...	...	1	...	3	3	7
TOTAL ...	...	13	91	79	133	468	784

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65. Out of 224 Criminal cases 55 resulted in acquittals. The total amount involved in Civil and Administration Suits amounted to $103,537 and $14,719 respectively.

66. There was one appeal from a decision of the Court of the Resident which was still undecided at the end of the year.

67. There were no cases of serious crime during the year.

68. The following is a comparative statement of offences reported to the Police for the last three years:—

	Offences	*Property Lost*	*Property Recovered*
		$ c.	$ c.
1927 ...	353	1,510 10	174 30
1928 ...	440	2,115 99	725 26
1929 ...	291	1,742 16	272 27

(*B*).—POLICE.

Strength. 69. The strength of the Force on 31st December, 1929, was as follows:—

Sgt. Major	*Sergeants*	*Corporals*	*Lance-Corporals*	*Constables*
1	4	3	3	51

This constitutes the present approved establishment.

Musketry. 70. The results of the musketry course were:—

Marksmen	*1st Class*	*2nd Class*	*3rd Class*
1	7	6	7

71. The rifle range and its equipment are not very satisfactory, but it is hoped to make improvements in 1930.

Discipline. 72. Discipline left a good deal to be desired, 58 men were defaulted. Thirteen were dismissed, 4 for serious breaches of discipline. Arrangements are being made to start a Police Canteen next year, which should result in an improvement in the general conduct and *esprit de corps* of the Force.

Health. 73. The health of the Force was fairly good. The average daily number on the sick list being only .16.

Buildings. 74. A new Police Post and Barracks were completed and occupied before the end of the year at the 11th Mile on the road to Tutong.

General. 75. Eight hundred and seventy-three firearms were registered showing a decrease of 87 compared with 1928, and 614 Weights and Measures were tested which is an increase of 99 as compared with 1928.

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76. Seven hundred and sixty-three aliens were registered during the year as compared with 787 for 1928.

77. Forty-five motor vehicles were registered and 58 drivers were licensed during the year which represents a small increase over 1928.

78. Four persons were taken by crocodiles and rewards were paid for 14 crocodiles caught.

79. The Fire Brigade was not called out during the year.

(*C*).—PRISONS.

80. At the beginning of the year the number of prisoners was 13 in Brunei Prison. The total admissions during the year were 49, all of whom were adult males, and their nationalities were as follows:—

Chinese	*Malays*	*Indians*	*Arabs*	*Kedayans*	*Javanese*	*Dyaks*
27	5	2	1	5	8	1

81. There were 13 prisoners in the Brunei Prison on 31st December, 1929. The daily average of prisoners was 12·86.

82. The general health of the prisoners was good and their conduct satisfactory.

83. Prisoners were employed mainly on public works, such as drain-digging, reclamation and clearing State Land.

84. They made rotan articles totalling $394 during the year of which Government took articles, chiefly in the form of baskets, to the value of $333. The materials cost $212.

85. The Chief Police Officer acted as Superintendent of Prisons with the Sergeant-Major in charge of the Brunei Gaol.

VII.—Public Works

86. The total expenditure under this head amounted to $103,547 of which $12,732 was in respect of Personal Emoluments, being only 8 per cent of the total expenditure. Expenditure.

87. The following buildings were completed during the year:— Buildings.

Hospital, Brunei.
Medical Officer's Quarters, Brunei.
Quarters for Senior Dresser, Brunei.
Quarters for two Clerks, Brunei.
Police Post and Barracks, Sengkurong (11th mile. Tutong Road).

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The removal of the District Headquarters of the Belait District from Kuala Balai to the mouth of the river where the Oil Company's supply depôt and workshops are situated was successfully carried out. Several of the old buildings were taken down and re-erected. A new set of Barracks and a new School were also constructed.

General.

88. A 90 feet reinforced concrete bridge over the Kiang-geh River was completed in March.

89. A scheme for the construction of a new Customs Wharf at Brunei Town was approved by His Excellency the High Commissioner in October, and work was commenced in November.

VIII.—Public Health

Appointment of Resident Medical Officer.

90. From the time of the appointment of the State's first Resident Medical Officer in February great strides have been made with the laying of the foundations of a Medical Department, and the inauguration of a programme of Public Health and sanitation measures.

91. The population at the end of the year was estimated at 29,000 as against an estimated figure of 35,000 at the end of 1928. Emigration was responsible for this large decline, about 10,000 persons entering the State as against 17,000 leaving it. The resident European population of the State numbered about 40.

Vital Statistics.

92. A system for the compulsory registration of births and deaths is in operation, but at the present stage of the State's development the figures can only be considered as approximately correct. The causes of deaths registered continue to be largely a matter of conjecture, as the original registration throughout the greater part of the State is in the hands of the police, and bodies are rarely seen by a medical authority.

Births

93. One thousand two hundred and twenty-two births were registered as against 1,074, giving a crude birth-rate of 43·13 per thousand as compared with 30·10 in 1928.

Deaths.

94. Deaths from all causes numbered 799, giving a crude mortality rate of 28·20 per thousand as compared with 26·68 in 1928.

95. The infantile mortality rate further declined to 261·87 per mille. It was over 400 per mille in 1927. Obstetrics, as practised by the local midwife, are of the crudest sort, and it will take years to overcome the prejudices of the people and their apathy in the face of this enormous mortality.

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96. The new Government Hospital was completed during the year, and officially opened by His Highness the Sultan in September. It is most satisfactory that the natives of Brunei are not showing the reluctance to be admitted as in-patients, which was often so common in parts of Malaya when a hospital was first opened. Hospital

97. The Outdoor and the Travelling Dispensaries were re-organised, and a total of 8,652 patients were treated as compared with 2,482 in 1928.

98. Four hundred and twenty-two vaccinations were performed and 226 injections for Yaws were given.

99. Routine examinations of all children attending the five Vernacular Malay Schools were regularily carried out. A high percentage of round-worm infection is found to exist. The spleen rate varied from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. Lectures on Personal Hygiene and preventable diseases were arranged for and the study of these has now been introduced as a part of the school curriculum.

100. Malaria, although prevalent in some parts of the State, is not the scourge in Brunei that it often is in similar undeveloped tropical countries. Probably one of the reasons for this comparative immunity is that Brunei has profited by the mistake which was often made elsewhere of clearing the hills and ravines near towns and Estates employing large labour forces. General.

101. A programme for general public health improvements has been drawn up. The villages of Tutong and Belait were declared to be Sanitary Board areas, and modified systems of sanitation control have been introduced.

102. A conservancy system is to be brought in for Brunei Town itself in 1930.

103. Sanitary latrines are to be installed for all Government buildings throughout the State.

104. Progress in Public Health will come gradually, and the rate of this progress will mainly be dependent on the success of the education of the younger generation, through the medium of the schools, in personal hygiene and the need for improvement in the cleanliness and sanitation of their own homes.

105. The mean temperature for the year was 85·64° F. The total rainfall was 125·74 inches as compared with 131·53 inches in 1928. The driest month was July with the small amount of 1·91 inches and the wettest month was May with 23·99 inches, an abnormal total for this month which is usually one of the driest in the year. Meteorology.

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106. The meteorological returns are given in Appendices *E* and *F*.

IX.—Education

Malay Schools.

107. An Enactment to provide for compulsory attendance at Schools (Enactment No. 3 of 1929) was passed giving the Resident power to declare from time to time the parts of the State in which compulsory attendance could be enforced. The Brunei Town area was the only area so declared during the year. An additional temporary school was erected in the Town, and there were 455 boys on the registers of the Town schools at the end of the year as compared with 122 at the close of 1928 under the non-compulsory system.

108. A new school was opened at Labu in the beginning of the year, and one at Kuala Belait in October. In addition three new school buildings were under construction in the Tutong District at the end of the year. In each case the villagers themselves were providing the materials and erecting the buildings with the assistance of small Grants-in-aid from Government.

109. The following numbers of boys between the ages of 6 and 16 years of age were on the registers of the six State schools at the end of the year:—

Brunei	455
Tutong	72
Temburong	52
Kilanas	27
Labu	29
Kuala Belait	37
Total ...	672

110. At the end of 1928 the total number on the registers was only 198. The average daily attendance varied between 73 per cent at Tutong and 65 per cent in Brunei Town.

111. The curriculum of the State Schools is based on that of the Vernacular Schools in Malaya and all the teaching is in the Malay language. Nothing is taught which might tend to drive Malays from their fishing and agricultural pursuits. Arrangements were made for the annual admission of two Brunei students into the Sultan Idris Training College for Vernacular Teachers at Tanjong Malim and before the end of the year two young Pupil Teachers were selected to go there early in 1930. Two boys were also selected to be

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educated at Government expense in the English School at Labuan, towards which the Brunei Government pays a small annual contribution. It is satisfactory that the inhabitants of the State are at last waking up to the value of a simple education for their boys, but for financial reasons further expansion in the provision of educational facilities will perforce have to be gradual.

112. There are no schools for girls.

113. In Brunei Town there is a private Chinese School in receipt of a Government grant. The number of pupils on the register at the end of the year was 41. Chinese School.

X.—Lands and Surveys

114. All land, not held under title or by concession, is called State Land which the Resident may dispose of on behalf of the Ruler in accordance with "The Land Code, 1909". Land system.

115. Alienated land is held either in perpetuity or for a number of years by entry in the Land Office Register and the document of title issued to the landholder is an Extract from this Register endorsed with a plan. The title covers surface right only and is subject to certain reservations in favour of Government such as the right to all minerals and to resume for public purposes on payment of compensation.

116. Licences to prospect for minerals such as coal and oil may be issued by the Resident and mining leases may likewise be issued by him subject to the sanction of the High Commissioner when the area exceeds five square miles. Mining.

117. All transactions, *e.g.*, transfers of land, mortgages are not effective till they have been registered in the Land Office.

118. All survey of alienated land is done by prismatic compass and boundary marks of stone are planted. The accuracy of this survey is open to question but this is unavoidable until the finances of the State will run to the establishment of a Survey Department. Surveys.

119. The area in private occupation at the end of the year was roughly 74,500 acres. There were about 4,300 small holdings. Area under title and concession.

120. The total rent-roll amounted to $18,705.70 and the arrears were only $368.87 at the end of the year. Land Revenue.

121. During the year 538 acres of State Land were alienated of which 481 acres were for rubber cultivation. Two hundred and seventy-seven applications were registered and of these 117 were approved alienation. Alienations.

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General.

122. The number of titles registered was 306 while 181 transfer and miscellaneous transactions were dealt with.

123. Forty-four land succession cases were dealt with during the year.

XI.—Labour

124. Conditions of labour are governed by the Labour Code of 1913 with its subsequent amendments and by the various Indian Immigration Enactments.

125. The Controller of Labour for Malaya is Controller of Labour for the State. The British Resident and the Medical Officer exercise the powers of Deputy Controller of Labour and Assistant Controller of Labour respectively.

126. An amendment to the Labour Code of 1913 was passed during the year abolishing the penal sections dealing with offences by labourers, and thus bringing the Code into line with the Indian Immigration Enactment.

127. There is now only one European Rubber Estate employing Indian labour. The other Estates were compelled during the year to get rid of their Indian labour forces owing to their inability to pay (with rubber at the prices obtaining during 1929) the rates of minimum standard wages which came into operation at the beginning of the year.

Health.

128. The health of the labour forces employed by the various Rubber Estates and by the British Malayan Petroleum Company, Limited, at Belait was on the whole very good and with the appointment of the State's first resident Medical Officer in February a great improvement in the health conditions on Estates has already been effected, but a considerable amount still remains to be done before they can be considered entirely satisfactory.

Immigration.

129. The immigration of labourers from Southern India to Malaya and Brunei is regulated by the Indian Immigration Committee (of which the Controller of Labour is *ex-officio* Chairman appointed by the High Commissioner). All travelling expenses of such labourers to their places of employment are paid from the Indian Immigration Fund. The income of this fund is derived from a quarterly assessment levied on all employers of South Indian labourers based on the number of days' work done by such labourers during the quarter.

Repatriation.

130. During the year 46 adults and 9 minors were repatriated at the expense of the Fund.

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131. The following table shows the approximate number of labourers employed by the chief employers of labour at the close of the year:—

Race	Island Trading Company, Ltd.	British Malayan Petroleum Company, Ltd. (Belait District)	Four European Rubber Estates	Total
Bruneis and Kedayans ...	550	208	620	1,378
Chinese	...	219	96	315
Javanese	...	...	149	149
Dyaks	...	2	...	2
Indians	...	204	107	311
Others	...	...	30	30
TOTAL ...	550	633	1,002	2,185

XII.—Miscellaneous

132. Nine meetings of the State Council were held during the year. State Council.

133. The following Enactments were passed:— Legislation.

Enactment I of 1929 ... Public Servants (Liabilities) Enactment.

,, II ,, ... Labour Enactment, 1913 Amendment Enactment, 1929.

,, III ,, ... School Attendance Enactment.

,, IV ,, ... Minor Offences Enactment.

,, V ,, ... Pawnbrokers Amendment Enactment.

134. Rules under the Minor Offences Enactment were made at the close of the year.

Rules to provide for the Registration of Opium Smokers under Order in Council No. 1 of 1928 were passed in February, and the system of registration introduced is working satisfactorily.

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General.

135. During the year the Headquarters of the Belait District were removed from Kuala Balai to Kuala Belait, and a great improvement in the administration of the District has resulted. Kuala Belait village is developing rapidly. A preliminary lay-out of the village area was completed, and 20 lots for semi-permanent shophouses were surveyed before the end of the year. These lots will be put up to public auction in 1930. Kuala Belait was also gazetted as a Village Area and a Sanitary Board was set up.

136. Ten new shop-houses were completed at Tutong and this growing village was also gazetted as a Sanitary Board Area.

137. A new Mosque was erected at Sengkurong by the local inhabitants with some assistance from Government near the new Police Station completed there during the year.

P. A. B. McKERRON,

British Resident, Brunei.

BRUNEI, 11*th March*, 1930.

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APPENDIX *A.*

Abstract of Revenue	1927	1928	1929
CLASS I	$	$	$
DUTIES, TAXES AND LICENSES—			
Customs	166,612	128,939	132,502
Government Monopolies ...	83,304	79,447	67,362
Licenses	18,654	18,117	20,363
Poll-Tax	2,688	1,740	1,966
Municipal	11,893	11,667	10,727
CLASS II			
FEES OF COURTS AND OFFICE, ETC.—			
Courts	3,958	4,167	4,447
Surveys	9,251	3,407	2,175
General	10,152	10,198	5,834
CLASS III			
POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS—			
Posts and Telegraphs ...	9,733	8,869	8,150
CLASS IV			
REVENUE FROM GOVERNMENT PROPERTY—			
Land Revenue	59,457	59,126	65,504
Cession Monies	15,175	15,200	15,200
Interest	11,258	13,885	10,481
CLASS V			
LAND SALE—			
Premia on Land Sales ...	...	...	579
TOTAL REVENUE ...	402,135	354,762	345,290

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APPENDIX *B.*

Abstract of Expenditure	1927	1928	1929
	$	$	$
His Highness the Sultan ...	13,200	13,200	13,200
Native Chiefs	12,000	14,400	14,400
British Resident	18,117	17,468	16,439
Treasury, Customs and Monopolies	13,156	13,878	15,647
Land and Surveys	7,822	8,864	7,041
District Offices	9,877	10,934	13,943
Education	3,214	3,425	7,310
Marine	12,792	13,155	10,051
Police	30,703	31,111	28,811
Medical	5,560	5,754	14,579
Political Pensions ...	2,405	2,174	6,714
Headmen	643	570	...
Interest	17,142	16,885	16,602
Municipal	10,213	8,166	3,964
Miscellaneous Services, Annually Recurrent	13,828	21,612	45,758
Miscellaneous Services, Special Expenditure	23,223	16,362	1,991
Pensions	2,872	2,701	3,589
Posts and Telegraphs	17,086	13,895	14,506
Public Works, Annually Recurrent ...	39,928	41,450	45,293
Public Works, Special Services ...	167,701	88,001	58,254
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	421,481	344,005	338,092
Repayment of Public Debt. ...	5,500	6,000	6,000
GRAND TOTAL ...	426,981	350,005	344,092

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The following tables show the Quantities and Values of the principal Exports and Imports for the years 1927–1929.—

Exports

Name of Article	—	Quantity			Value		
		1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
					$	$	$
A.—Food, Animals and Drinks—							
Cattle	head	145	116	52	8,708	9,143	2,568
Pigs	,,	379	292	387	18,973	13,193	12,566
Poultry	,,	440	290	322	306	238	251
Dried Prawns	pikuls	980	891	2,077	54,179	48,153	54,376
Dried Fish	,,	34	39	102	492	465	4,403
Sago Flour	,,	1,753	2,998	3,068	8,950	11,906	12,385
Copra	,,	16	434	144	159	3,337	1,291
B.—Raw Materials—							
Raw Sago	bayongs*	178	163	260	343	308	512
Cutch	tons	2,101	2,086	2,104	202,840	179,104	185,802
Forest Produce	...	...	...	...	26,546	4,812	13,566
Plantation rubber	lbs.	1,571,522	1,669,679	2,301,625	892,627	581,265	742,999
Jelutong rubber	pikuls	16,825	16,954	13,180	177,029	151,501	165,120
Marine Products	...	...	...	...	1,415	1,336	426
Hides and Horns	pikuls	329	239	214	4,308	3,805	3,836
Coal	tons	52	25	...	624	300	...
Timber	...	...	...	...	...	1,045	2,813
Prawn Refuse	bags	No return	No return	199	No return	No return	1,144
C.—Manufactured Articles—							
Brassware	pikuls	153	109	99	16,008	13,539	12,083
Silverware	...	...	...	...	11,182	16,500	15,430
Sarongs	pieces	1,312	1,121	1,374	9,626	8,751	9,828
Kajang	bundles	6,228	4,386	4,642	4,882	3,481	3,927
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	4,506	5,889	6,009
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	1,443,703	1,058,071	1,251,335

* Bayong=Basket with capacity of 150 katties

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APPENDIX C.—*Continued*

The following tables show the Quantities and Values of the Principal Exports and Imports for the years 1927—1929.

Imports

Name of Article	—	Quantity			Value		
		1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
					$	$	$
A.—Food Drinks and Tobacco—							
Rice	pikuls	39,730	35,509	27,754	298,812	232,127	199,697
Other Grains	,,	2,545	4,322	2,603	12,297	13,730	11,966
Milk	cases	1,633	1,558	1,834	21,276	18,934	21,642
Salt	pikuls	2,047	2,185	2,481	4,268	3,832	4,622
Sugar	,,	7,476	7,270	7,559	67,107	57,760	55,229
Tobacco	lbs.	87,528	85,917	79,846	111,763	116,462	125,137
Provisions	...	...	...	...	113,818	105,780	99,415
Flour	sacks	8,805	7,307	6,836	32,249	25,368	23,287
Coconut Oil	tins	3,306	2,744	2,710	21,521	17,475	15,187
Coffee	pikuls	407	333	316	17,349	14,449	14,346
Spirit	gallons	2,948	3,096	3,946	17,029	16,984	20,267
Arrack	,,	130	137	136	486	412	512
B.—Raw Materials—							
Petroleum	gallons	72,532	90,935	91,736	50,336	68,117	68,360
Timber	...	...	...	...	5,388	11,078	6,778
C.—Manufactured Articles—							
Motor Vehicles	...	...	...	...	5,796	10,667	11,210
Dyed Cotton Goods	...	...	...	...	80,545	68,342	77,736
Yarn and Thread	...	...	...	...	20,793	14,703	20,287
Sarongs	...	...	...	...	30,941	21,233	21,477
Machinery	...	...	...	...	204,502	242,207	174,454
Chandu	tahils	11,520	7,985	9,200	24,326	17,022	19,612
Matches	tins	877	1,009	1,132	5,464	6,071	6,666
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	219,006	284,149	453,485
Coins and Bullion	...	...	...	...	53,443	18,842	32,921
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	1,418,515	1,385,744	1,484,293

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APPENDIX *D.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE BY DISTRICTS FOR THE YEARS 1927–1929

Exports

District	Plantation rubber			Jelutong rubber			Raw Sago and Sago Flour			Copra		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	lbs.	lbs.	bs.	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls
Brunei ...	875,454	1,028,960	1,353,315	80	86	8	10	24	12	...	17	20
Belait ...	17,452	2,979	16,001	11,459	11,948	8,747	1,231	1,776	698	...	2	...
Tutong ...	91,927	98,185	137,706	3,414	3,740	3,306	144	247	1,563	...	1	...
Temburong ...	560,446	517,092	766,854	1,871	1,180	1,119	532	1,181	1,185	...	58	50
Muara ...	26,243	22,463	27,749	...	...	...	30	12	...	159	356	74
TOTAL ...	1,571,522	1,669,679	2,301,625	16,824	16,954	13,179	1,947	3,240	3,458	159	434	144

District	Forest Produce			Cattle			Pigs			Hides and Horns		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	$	$	$	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Head	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls
Brunei ...	3,083	1,425	2,307	27	4	11	335	227	372	254	142	142
Belait ...	22,264	1,637	5,063	2	3	13	...	...	11	14	30	30
Tutong ...	954	1,540	4,787	74	78	...	...	...	...	47	58	35
Temburong ...	139	61	1,263	1	1	4	...	3	...	10	7	5
Muara ...	62	149	146	41	30	24	44	12	4	4	2	2
OTAL ...	26,502	4,812	13,566	145	116	52	379	292	387	329	239	214

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APPENDIX *D.—Continued*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE BY DISTRICTS FOR THE YEARS 1927–1929

Exports

District	Kajang			Marine Produce			Sarongs			Brassware		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	Bundles	Bundles	Bundles	$	$	$	$	$	$	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls
Brunei ...	6,228	4,386	4,642	1,401	1,099	330	9,626	8,751	1,263	129	103	83
Belait ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111	4	4	14
Tutong ...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Temburong ...	...	...	...	...	36	89	...	...	...	1	1	1
Muara ...	...	...	...	6	666	7	...	...	...	1	1	1
TOTAL ...	6,228	4,386	4,642	1,415	1,801	426	9,626	8,751	1,374	135	109	99

District	Silverware			Dried Prawns			Cutch			Manufactured Articles		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	$	$	$	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Tons	Tons	Tons	$	$	$
Brunei ...	11,182	16,500	15,430	957	846	2,012	2,101	2,086	2,104	3,847	5,687	5,789
Belait ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	43	171
Tutong ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	525	67	...
Temburong ...	...	...	...	...	25	52	...	...	...	...	50	38
Muara ...	...	...	...	23	20	13	...	...	...	121	42	11
TOTAL ...	11,182	16,500	15,430	980	891	2,077	2,101	2,086	2,104	4,506	5,889	6,009

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APPENDIX *D.—Continued.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE BY DISTRICTS FOR THE YEARS 1927–1929

Imports

District	Rice			Tobacco			Piece Goods			Sugar		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	$	$	$	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls
Brunei ...	26,936	26,066	20,238	53,427	59,724	55,579	63,358	58,377	67,898	4,966	5,001	4,829
Belait ...	5,668	3,842	3,732	13,975	14,604	12,297	27,428	14,281	13,535	648	676	947
Tutong ...	1,086	595	419	8,433	3,267	2,765	9,596	9,939	10,246	926	737	784
Temburong ...	4,568	3,318	2,431	8,520	6,887	8,362	7,529	5,698	6,134	590	595	672
Muara ...	1,472	1,687	934	3,173	985	843	3,575	1,280	1,400	346	261	327
TOTAL ...	39,730	35,508	27,754	87,528	85,017	79,846	111,486	89,575	99,213	7,476	7,270	7,559

District	Petroleum			Provisions			Machinery			Other grains		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons	$	$	$	$	$	$	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls
Brunei ...	44,103	52,904	46,593	56,493	47,078	40,837	10,694	6,284	2,154	2,038	3,937	1,600
Belait ...	16,797	29,241	34,887	27,180	33,429	32,774	190,512	245,737	172,209	394	229	221
Tutong ...	5,852	4,424	5,226	10,310	7,814	5,116	334	700	91	28	20	36
Temburong ...	4,608	3,890	3,549	16,998	15,351	19,078	2,500	153	...	32	72	672
Muara ...	1,172	496	1,481	2,837	2,108	1,610	462	...	...	53	64	74
TOTAL ...	72,532	90,935	91,736	113,818	105,780	99,415	204,502	252,874	174,454	2,545	4,322	2,603

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APPENDIX *D.—Cld.*

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF TRADE BY DISTRICTS IN THE YEARS 1927–1929.

Imports

District	Salt			Flour			Coconut oil			Liquor		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	Pikuls	Pikuls	Pikuls	Sacks	Sacks	Sacks	Tins	Tins	Tins	Gallons	Gallons	Gallons
Brunei ...	1,145	1,485	1,558	6,575	5,590	5,159	2,237	1,794	1,706	1,751	1,810	1,923
Belait ...	161	218	263	626	649	764	400	490	452	777	1,079	1,580
Tutong ...	304	213	275	279	205	298	169	154	191	18	22	46
Temburong ...	106	128	152	863	571	615	402	274	334	464	315	523
Muara ...	331	140	233	462	292	401	98	32	27	68	6	10
TOTAL ...	2,047	2,184	2,481	8,805	7,307	7,237	3,306	2,744	2,710	3,078	3,232	4,082

District	Timber			Yarn and Thread			Other Manufactured Articles			Chandu		
	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929	1927	1928	1929
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	Tahils	Tahils	Tahils
Brunei ...	3,712	8,465	3,314	18,048	13,522	16,322	138,232	143,778	113,735	11,520	7,985	9,200
Belait ...	...	83	2,423	922	261	860	41,040	116,846	312,611	...	...	...
Tutong ...	...	1,948	738	614	339	2,328	8,833	5,626	10,431	...	...	...
Temburong ...	1,618	479	65	1,000	414	519	26,044	15,834	14,953	...	...	...
Muara ...	58	103	238	209	167	258	4,857	2,065	1,755	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	5,388	11,078	6,778	20,793	14,703	20,287	219,006	284,149	453,485	11,520	7,985	9,200

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APPENDIX *E.*

ABSTRACT OF RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS AT THE SEVEN STATIONS OF THE STATE DURING THE YEAR 1929

Month	BRUNEI DISTRICT				TEMBURONG DISTRICT		
	Brunei Govt. Offices	Subok	Gadong	Kumbang Pasang	Labu	Biang	Batu Apoi
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
January ...	10·18	12·07	9·27	11·62	9·68	9·29	7·65
February ...	4·20	3·98	7·26	5·24	12·30	11·54	8·52
March ...	6·14	6·79	7·49	5·55	24·81	25·45	18·73
April ...	8·17	7·81	7·73	6·24	10·84	13·17	6·54
May ...	23·99	20·45	20·74	16·89	35·88	27·76	20·42
June ...	9·05	8·97	10·01	10·27	11·42	12·93	10·29
July ...	1·91	1·49	2·35	2·54	1·39	3·82	2·28
August ...	11·11	10·15	5·13	8·10	8·34	9·91	5·47
September ...	16·53	14·57	14·08	15·79	22·98	20·09	21·77
October ...	11·83	11·86	11·25	7·69	14·49	13·00	8·18
November ...	14·38	12·72	13·07	12·74	23·90	20·03	19·62
December ...	8·25	5·76	7·12	8·22	5·76	5·96	8·69
TOTAL ...	125·74	116·62	115·50	110·89	181·79	172·95	138·16

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APPENDIX *F*.

Abstract of Thermometrical Observations at the Government Hosiptal, Brunei Town, during the year 1929

Month	Thermometer Mean (In Shade)			Highest Recorded Shade Temperature	Lowest Recorded Shade Temperature
	Maximum	Minimum	Range		
January	84·67 °F	75·90 °F	8·77 °F	89 °F	73 °F
February	85·01 „	76·64 „	8·37 „	89 „	74 „
March	84·77 „	76·35 „	8·42 „	87 „	74 „
April	85·27 „	76·43 „	8·84 „	87 „	73 „
May	85·58 „	76·84 „	8·74 „	88 „	74 „
June	85·50 „	77·co „	8·50 „	88 „	75 „
July	86·32 „	76·81 „	9·51 „	88 „	75
August	85·87 „	76·65 „	9·22 „	89 „	73 „
September	86·00 „	77·40 „	8·60 „	89 „	75 „
October	85·87 „	76·87 „	9·00 „	89 „	75 „
November	86·03 „	77·30 „	8·73 „	88 „	74 „
December	86·74 „	76·94 „	9·80 „	89 „	75 „
Mean Temperature ...	85·64 °F	76·76 °F			
	81·20 °F				

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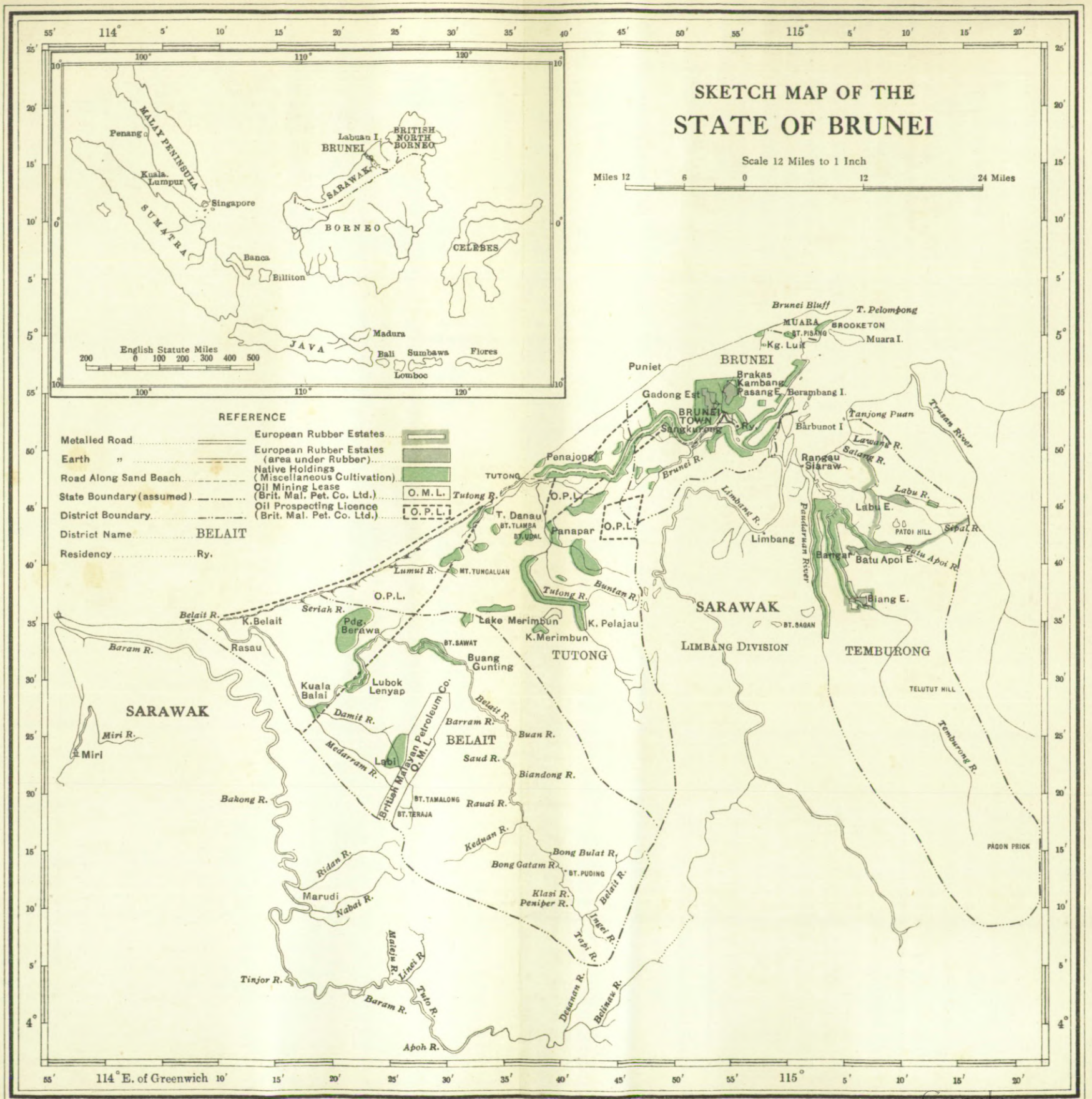

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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grapefruit Culture in the British West Indies and British Honduras. (E.M.B. 13.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Survey Method of Research in Farm Economics. January, 1929. (E.M.B. 14.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Oranges. World Production and Trade, Memorandum prepared in the Statistics and Intelligence Branch. April, 1929. (E.M.B. 15.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Schistosomiasis and Malaria in Relation to Irrigation. May, 1929. (E.M.B. 17.) 1*s.* 3*d.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

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Panama Disease of Bananas. Reports on scientific visits to the Banana growing countries of the West Indies, Central and South America. July, 1929. (E.M.B. 20.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 10*d.*).

Wool, a study of the fibre. September, 1929. (E.M.B. 21.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 11*d.*).

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REPORT FOR 1929.

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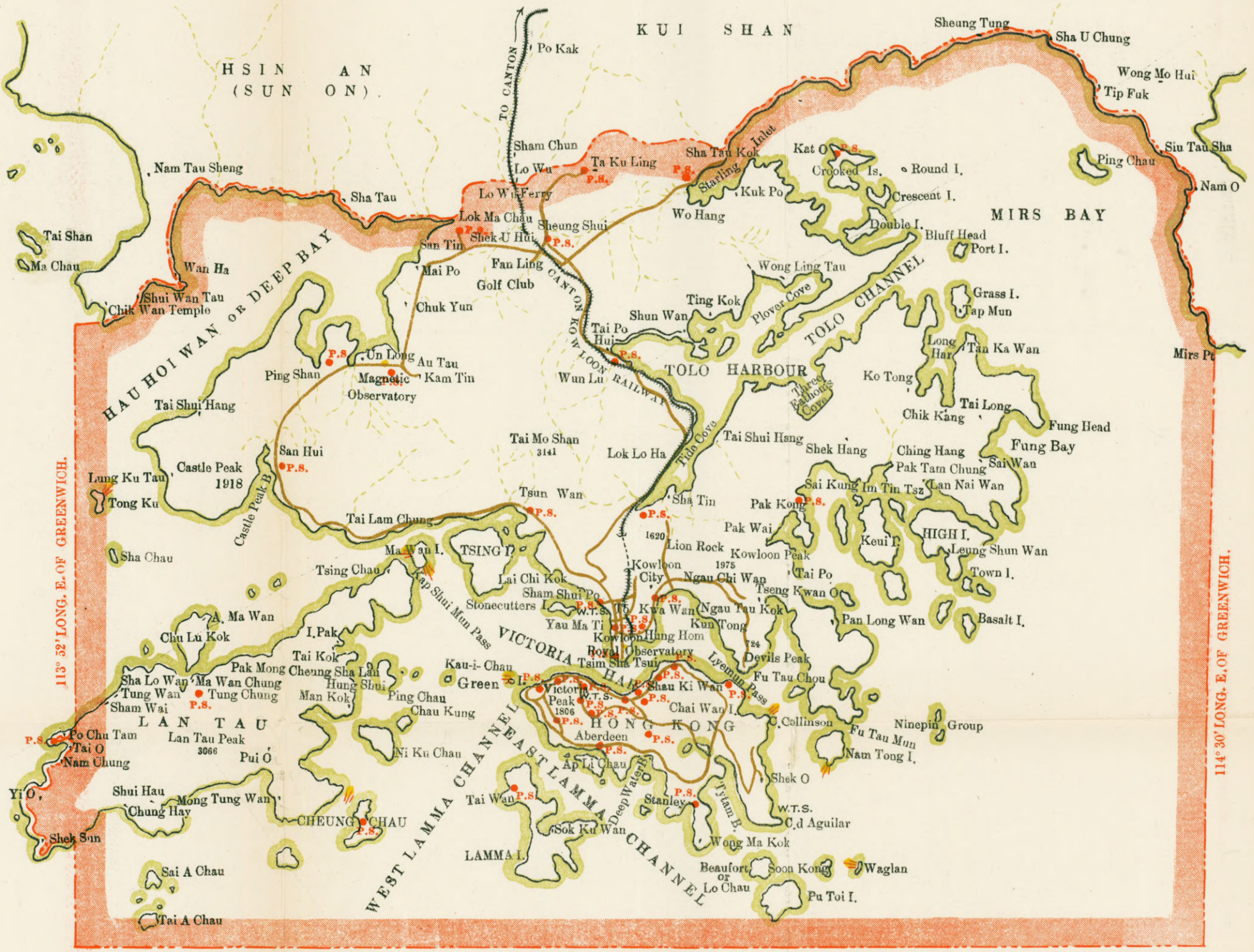
Map of Hong Kong and New Territories.



— Scale of Miles —

1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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Main Roads
Streams
Railway
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History and Geography.

The Colony of Hong Kong is situated off the south-eastern coast of China between latitude 22° 9′ and 22° 17′ N. and longitude 114° 5′ and 114° 18′ E. The island is about 11 miles long and 2 to 5 miles in breadth, its circumference being about 27 miles and its area 28¾ square miles. It consists of an irregular ridge of lofty hills rising to a height of nearly 2,000 feet above sea level, stretching nearly east and west, with few valleys of any extent and little ground available for cultivation.

The island, then desolate and sparsely inhabited by fishermen, was ceded to Great Britain in January, 1841, the cession being confirmed by the Treaty of Nanking in August, 1842, and the charter bears the date of 5th April, 1843. All that part of Kowloon peninsula lying South of Kowloon Fort to the northernmost point of Stonecutter's Island together with that island was ceded to Great Britain under the Convention signed at Peking in October, 1860, and under the Convention signed at Peking in June, 1898, the area

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known as the New Territories including Mirs Bay and Deep Bay was leased to Great Britain by the Government of China for 99 years. The area of the New Territories and Islands is about 345 square miles.

Trade gradually developed as China became accustomed to foreign intercourse and it increased greatly owing to the opening of the Suez Canal. It now stands at about 200 million pounds sterling per annum.

Large local banking, dock, steamboat, and insurance companies were established between 1865 and 1872, and their numbers are being continually added to.

The Colony is the centre of an incessant flow of Chinese emigration and immigration (*see* XIII Miscellaneous).

The Rainfall for 1928 was 71.15 inches and for 1929 it was 69.82 inches, against an average of 85.73 inches for the past 45 years. A serious shortage of rain from the end of February to the middle of June caused a water famine. Disaster was averted by a rainfall of 3.8 inches between June 14th and 25th, followed by frequent heavy rain in July to the extent of 22.7 inches, and in August to the extent of 20 inches.

In 1929 the mean temperature of the air was 72°.6 as against 72°.4 in 1928 and 71°.8 for the past 45 years.

The typhoon season may be said to last from June to October, though typhoons occasionally occur before and after this period. On August 22nd, 1929, a severe typhoon passed between Hong Kong and Gap Rock, on a WNW track, causing a violent gale at Hong Kong, the maximum gust velocity being at the rate of 117 m.p.h. from E. b. S. 1.39 p.m.

The currency of Hong Kong consists of the following coins (vide Order in Council, 2nd February, 1895):—

1. The silver dollar of Mexico.
2. British dollar.
3. The Hong Kong dollar, half-dollar, and 20 cent, 10 cent, and 5 cent pieces, issued from the Hong Kong Mint. (1866-68).
4. Half-dollars, 20, 10, and 5 cent pieces, imported from England, and coined at the Royal Mint and Birmingham Mint.
5. Copper coins representing one-hundredth part of the dollar (called one cent), and one-thousandth part of the dollar (mil or cash), imported from England.

Local weights and measures are the following:—

1 tael = $1\frac{1}{3}$ oz.;

1 picul = $133\frac{1}{3}$rd lbs. (avoirdupois)

$7\frac{1}{2}$ catties = 1 imperial gallon;

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I.—General.

At the close of the year 1928 the accounts of the Colony showed a surplus balance of $8,091,634, and the balance at the end of 1929 was, subject to the final examination of the Crown Agents Accounts estimated to be $9,577,038. Thus, in spite of continued trade depression, the general position of the Colony remains sound, but increasing expenditure on normal recurrent charges and demands for new public works are more than overtaking the normal growth of revenue so that fresh sources will have to be explored in search of increased income.

On January 2nd, Marshal Li Chai Sum left Canton for Nanking to take part in the Disarmament Conference. He returned a month later and spent the month of February in an endeavour to reorganize the military establishments of Kwangtung and Kwangsi in conformity with the decisions reached. On March 5th he again left to attend the assembly of the National Party at Nanking. General Chan Ming Shü Chairman of the Kwangtung Provincial Government was following him a few days later but while in Hong Kong he sustained serious injuries in escaping from the fire which destroyed the King Edward Hotel necessitating his removal to hospital.

Meanwhile the friction which had been growing between the Central Government and the Kwangsi group since the expulsion of Lo Tik Ping from Hunan in February, developed into open warfare and Marshal Li Chai Sum was arrested and detained in Nanking on March 20th on a charge of complicity in the rebellion. His followers in Canton at once prepared to take the field but on March 30th they were expelled and Canton took the side of the Central Government under the leadership of Generals Chang Ming Shü and Chan Tsai Tong and Admiral Chan Chak.

Hostilities then broke out between Kwangtung and Kwangsi. A mutiny of the Cantonese Navy and an attempt to seize Canton by a *coup de main* on May 7th were frustrated by the use of aeroplanes and subsequently, after severe fighting which continued from May 10th to May 19th, a determined attack by the Kwangsi forces was completely defeated. By the end of June with the help of reinforcements from Nanking the province of Kwangsi was brought under the control of the Central Government. The rebellion of Cheung Fat Fui in September was the signal for a renewed rising in Kwangsi which culminated in a combined attack on Canton in the months of November and December. By December 18th the Cantonese armies had succeeded once more in routing their adversaries and the end of the year saw them in occupation of Wuchow preparing again for the invasion of Kwangsi.

Mr. Chü Chao Hsin resigned his post as Commissioner of Foreign Affairs at the end of May and was succeeded by Mr. Yee Shing L. C. Tao who held this office until the end of the year.

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The office of Chairman of the Provincial Government was held throughout the year by General Chan Ming Shü.

The year showed a gratifying decrease in the number of piracies, the record though was somewhat marred by the piracy of the "Haiching" in December. The attack was however frustrated by the gallant efforts of the ship's officers and the co-operation of His Majesty's Navy.

The list of piracies which took place in 1929 is as follows:—

Piracy of fishing junk off Cheung Chau Island. Date 18th August, 1929. Piracy of the S.S. "Haiching". Date 8th December, 1929.

The year was rendered memorable by a slight change in the Constitution resulting in an increase in the numbers of the Legislative Council of the Colony. His Excellency the Governor on his return in January was able to announce the appointment of four additional members to the Council, two official and two unofficial. These seats were taken by the Harbour Master and the Director of Medical and Sanitary Services, and by two unofficial members, the Honourable Mr. J. P. Braga, and the Honourable Dr. S. W. Ts'o, O.B.E., LL.D., who made the third Chinese representative.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, K.G., G.C.V.O., who had been entrusted with the mission to present the Order of the Garter to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, passed through the Colony in April, arriving on the 25th, and leaving on the afternoon of the 27th in H.M.S. "Suffolk." Special arrangements were made for his reception and entertainment by the European and Chinese Communities, including the presentation of addresses on arrival at the City Hall, a dinner given by the General Chamber of Commerce, and a luncheon given by the Chinese Community. A reception and Garden Party on the Hong Kong Cricket Club ground took place on the afternoon of the 26th April. The Colony greatly enjoyed the honour of His Royal Highness' visit and all classes availed themselves of the opportunity of giving concrete evidence of their loyalty to the throne.

The honours conferred on residents of Hong Kong by His Majesty the King included the appointments of the following:—

Mr. Li Yau-tsun .....C.B.E.

Lieutenant Colonel L. G. Bird, D.S.O. .....O.B.E. (Military Division)

Mr. Cheng Cheuk-hin ....I.S.O.

Mr. P. Julyan .....I.S.O.

The Colony experienced a serious water shortage in the first half of the year which lasted until July 13th when a heavy fall of rain helped to remove further anxiety. The drought had lasted since the

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previous September, the year 1928 having a rainfall of only 71.16 inches as compared with 107.87 in 1927 and an average annual rainfall of 85.73. Pactically no rain had fallen since August 1928 and the position became increasingly serious until on July 11th only 41,000,000 gallons remained in the island reservoirs. It is calculated that under normal conditions the average daily consumption in the Island is 12,000,000 gallons, but restrictions on the supply had been gradually imposed with increasing severity so that by the end of the drought the actual consumption from the reservoirs had been reduced to 3,000,000 gallons a day. These restrictions were more acutely felt by the inhabitants of the more densely populated lower levels. Conditions in Kowloon were also serious, but of shorter duration, and on June 8th the total storage in the mainland was only 76 Mill. Gall. In order to alleviate their sufferings as far as possible a Water Emergency Committee was appointed at the beginning of June. to assist the Government in devising and carrying out schemes for augmenting the reservoir supplies.

To this end water was brought from out-ports in ships and from the Canton River in a specially chartered Tanker and H.M.S. "Cherub"; in addition various small streams in the New Territories were tapped and their yield brought in by lighters and water boats. These supplies were placed in large tanks situated along the waterfront from which the population of the lower levels, mainly Chinese, were permitted to draw. A special Water Shipping Committee was in charge of the transport of such supplies and had evolved schemes for further augmentation when the long expected rainfall in July removed the necessity for these emergency measures.

The unprecedented drought had, however, the effect of emphasising the urgency of increasing the normal supply, and the preparations already begun for the cross-harbour pipe line were hurried on with the utmost speed and it was anticipated that by April 1930, the Island would be in a position to draw extra supplies, if required, from the mainland reservoirs. The construction of the new Aberdeen reservoir was also expedited.

One of the most serious fires recorded in the history of the Colony occurred on March 11th when the King Edward Hotel was almost completely destroyed by fire. The disaster was the more serious owing to the loss of life. Altogether ten persons were killed, including six Europeans, and five persons were injured. Amongst the latter were General Chan Ming Shü, Chairman of the Kwangtung Provincial Government, and his wife who were in the Colony on a short stay on their way to Nanking.

His Excellency the Governor Sir Cecil Clementi, K.C.M.G., was absent from the Colony on short leave in the Philippine Islands from October 1st until October 28th. During his absence the Honourable Mr. W. T. Southorn. C.M.G., acted as Officer Administering the Government. The Honourable Mr. W. T. Southorn, Colonial Secretary, was absent on short leave from the 29th May to June 22nd, 1929.

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On the 21st November it was announced that His Majesty had been pleased to approve the appointment of His Excellency Sir Cecil Clementi, K.C.M.G., as Governor of the Straits Settlements and High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States.

His Excellency Major-General C. C. Luard, C.B., C.M.G., General Officer Commanding the South China Command, left the Colony on the 7th March, 1929, on completion of his term of duty and was succeeded by His Excellency Major-General J. W. Sandilands, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., whose command was enlarged to include all the military forces in China.

Admiral Sir R. Y. Tyrwhitt, G.C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief of the China Station was succeeded by Vice-Admiral Sir A. K. Waistell, K.C.B., who hoisted his flag on February 1st, 1929.

II.—Finance.

The total revenue of the year amounted to $23,554,475.16 which sum exceeded the Estimate by $1,275,875.16 but fell short of the revenue for 1928 by $1,413,924.

It should be noted however, that included in the revenue for 1928 was a sum of $1,963,359 which was recovered from the funds of the Public Works Loan (1927) on account of expenditure on Loan Works during the years 1923-1926.

There were increases under all heads with the exception of Licences and Internal Revenue and Fees of Court etc., which showed decreases of $498,585 and $65,595 respectively. The most notable feature was the increase in Land Sales of $936,171 and another large increase of $458,477 was shown under Miscellaneous Receipts, mainly due to exchange.

A considerable increase in Radio and Postal Traffic was reflected in the Post Office Revenue which exceeded the Estimate by $73,665 while improved conditions enabling the Kowloon-Canton Railway through service to Canton to be maintained resulted in an increase of $82,445 in the Railway revenue.

The expenditure for the year amounted to $21,983,257 which was $2,816,393 less than the estimate and $753,015 more than the expenditure in 1928.

Substantial savings were effected in the votes of the Public Works Recurrent and P. W. Extraordinary and the Kowloon-Canton Railway and to a smaller extent in many other departments.

The serious shortage of water during part of the year involved the Colony in an expenditure of $357,993 in emergency measures.

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The following is a statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years.

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
1925	$23,244,365	$28,266,817
1926	21,131,582	23,524,716
1927	21,344,536	20,845,065
1928	24,968,399	21,220,242
1929	23,554,475	21,983,257

Public Debt:—The amount of the Public Works Loan (1927) which is repayable in 1932. is $4,927,000. The Sinking Fund amounted to £51,320.

The Inscribed Stock Loans of 1893 and 1906 due for repayment in 1943 stood at £1,485,733 and Sinking Fund at £674,622.

Trade Loan:—A further 29 loans amounting to $1,356,536.86 were redeemed during the year thus reducing the number of the loans outstanding on 31st December, 1929, to 60 representing a sum of $3,340,022.22.

III.—Production.

FORESTRY, AGRICULTURE & BOTANY.

Formation of Plantations.—Planting of *Pinus Massoniana* and other trees was carried on chiefly in the areas which have been definitely allocated as permanent forestry reserves. 61,000 more trees were planted than in the previous year.

Insect Pests.—Pine Tree Caterpillars (*Dendrolimus punctatus*) made their appearance in very small numbers only, and the amount of damage done by them was negligible.

Protection of Plantations.—A large number of serious fires occurred in plantations, where not less than 10,000 mature Pine trees were destroyed. The major portion of the damage was done at the time of the Chung Yeung Festival, when the weather was exceptionally hot and dry.

Inspection of Nursery Stock.—Thirteen consignments, totalling 127,940 bulbs, of *Narcissus Tazetta* were inspected and certified as fit for export to Britain, United States of America and Hawaii.

One hundred and thirty-four consignments of dried vegetable products were inspected and certified as fit for export to the Philippine Islands.

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Cultivation of Foreign Vegetables.—Increased interest is being shown by residents of the New Territories villages in the cultivation of this crop during the winter months; formerly the major portion of the Padi fields were kept empty for at least three months during the year.

Typhoon Damage.—Numerous large trees in the Botanical Gardens, streets and roads on the Island and in the New Territories were destroyed by the gale which passed close to the Colony on August 22nd.

Fisheries.

A considerable proportion of the boat population of Hong Kong supports itself by deep-sea fishing, in which pursuit a large number of junks are engaged. The villages of Aberdeen, Stanley, Shaukiwan, and also many in the New Territories, are largely dependent upon this industry for their prosperity. Fresh water fish is imported from Canton and the West River. There are oyster beds of considerable value in Deep Bay.

Mining.

The mineral resources of the Colony are small and little mining was done in 1929.

Manufactures.

Sugar.—Hong Kong sugars were more in demand during 1929 than in the previous year, but markets were difficult and results disappointing. The continuation of the anti-Japanese boycott in China induced cautious buying for the first half of the year, and later, on its removal, stocks of sugar at abnormally low prices were forced on the market. Political unrest in China considerably curtailed business throughout the year.

Hosiery.—There are established in the Colony over a score of Chinese-owned factories for the knitting of cotton hosiery and singlets. The factories use, except for the higher grades, Japanese yarn and find an ever-increasing demand for their products in South Africa, the Persian Gulf, and in many parts of the near East, wherever there is a large native population. Business in hosiery manufactured at local knitting factories compares unfavourably with the volume in 1928. Low Japanese grades were less affected than manufactures of better class British yarns. Prospects appeared to be good during the early months of 1929, but an unexpected lack of enquiry set in about March, which left the trade considerably overstocked with both yarn and hosiery. The position at the end of the year showed signs of improvement, but was far from normal.

Ginger.—A dozen ginger-preserving establishments deal with the raw product which is imported from South China and supplied principally to Great Britain, Holland, the U.S.A. and Australia,

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to the extent of about £300,000 annually. Owing to the drought in South China in the early part of 1929, the price of raw ginger was higher than for many years. The high cost affected the demand in the buying markets, and the year on the whole was an unsatisfactory one for local manufacturers and merchants dealing in the product.

Rope Making.—The demand for Manila Cordage was not good during 1929, and the year's turnover showed a decrease on that of the previous year.

Shipbuilding.

Five coasting steamers, six passenger and cargo motor vessels, three other ocean going vessels, and fifteen smaller craft were built in local dockyards during 1929.

IV.—Trade and Economics.

In anticipation of the increased Chinese Customs Import Duties as from 1st February, the year opened with greater activity in import trade and in the clearance of stocks in Hong Kong. China New Year having passed off more or less satisfactorily, internal strife in China and depreciation of Central Bank of China notes proved a serious deterrent to trade for several months. Accentuated depression of the market marked the second half of 1929, autumn trading being handicapped by the fact that heavy shipments of piece goods and other commodities prior to the increase in the Tariff had not moved into consumption. The premium on the local dollar (as a result of its temporary divorce from silver value) aggravated already unfavourable conditions. The adjustment of exchange in October led to considerable improvement in offtake of piecegoods, and to an increase of activity in regard to exports. The recrudescence of internecine strife in adjoining provinces of China in November and December, in conjunction with general political unrest in Nanking and the North, brought about a most depressed state of affairs for the remainder of the year as regards imports and clearances, and greatly restricted export business in view of the holding-up of supplies.

V.—Communications.

Shipping.

The total Shipping entering and clearing Ports in the Colony during the year 1929 amounted to 300,557 vessels of 47,186,181 tons which compared with the figures of 1928 shows an increase of 241 vessels and an increase of 2,302,416 tons.

Of the above, 52,574 vessels of 39,871,149 tons were engaged in Foreign Trade as compared with 52,278 vessels of 37,640,694 tons in 1928.

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There was an increase in British Ocean-going shipping of 221 vessels of 358,451 tons.

Foreign Ocean-going vessels showed an increase of 439 vessels and an increase of 1,032,895 tons.

British River Steamers showed an increase of 857 vessels and an increase of 1,040,135 tons.

Foreign River Steamers showed an increase of 366 vessels and an increase of 18,761 tons.

In Steamships not exceeding 60 tons employed in Foreign Trade there was a decrease of 1,110 vessels with a decrease in tonnage of 29,976 tons.

Junks in Foreign trade showed a decrease of 477 vessels and a decrease of 189,811 tons.

In Local Trade (*i.e.* between places within the waters of the Colony) there was a decrease in Steam Launches of 1,099 Vessels and a decrease in Tonnage of 106,785.

Junks in Local Trade showed an increase of 1,044 Vessels and an increase of 178,746 tons.

Of vessels of European construction, 6,274 Ocean-going vessels, 4,532 River Steamers, and 3,688 Steamships not exceeding 60 tons entered during the year giving a daily average of 39.7 vessels as compared with 38.5 vessels in 1928 and 37.3 vessels in 1927.

HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS.

Year	Number & Tonnage of Vessels in Foreign Trade entered & cleared.			Total Shipping Entered and Cleared.	
	Number	Total Tonnage	Percentage of British Tonnage	British Tonnage	Total Tonnage
1918	43,436	16,955,332	41.7	7,072,021	29,518,189
1919	41,985	21,072,129	43.0	9,095,805	35,615,169
1920	43,364	24,194,022	43.8	11,608,069	40,122,527
1921	52,222	27,852,616	44.3	12,766,492	43,420,970
1922	50,427	29,543,564	45.4	13,420,118	46,566,764
1923	49,900	35,947,534	47.0	16,920,491	53,402,239
1924	57,765	38,770,499	47.3	18,369,413	56,731,077
1925	41,336	32,179,053	47.6	15,321,935	49,520,523
1926	30,231	28,371,104	51.5	14,730,846	43,796,436
1927	51,289	36,834,014	45.7	16,960,522	44,127,161
1928	52,278	37,640,694	46.6	17,562,442	44,883,765
1929	52,574	39,871,149	47.5	18,961,028	47,186,181

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A comparison between the years 1928 to 1929 is given in the following table :—

Class of Vessels	1928.		1929.		Decrease.		Increase.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British Ocean-going, ...	4,513	10,792,701	4,734	11,151,152	...	...	221	358,451
Foreign Ocean going, ...	7,370	16,101,694	7,809	17,134,589	...	...	439	1,032,895
British River Steamers, ...	6,617	6,769,741	7,474	7,809,876	...	...	857	1,040,135
Foreign River Steamers. ...	1,235	542,300	1,601	561,061	...	...	366	18,761
Steamships under 60 tons Foreign Trade...	8,544	241,043	7,434	211,067	1,110	29,976	...	...
Junks. Foreign Trade, ...	23,999	3,193,215	23,522	3,003,404	477	189,811	...	...
Total, Foreign Trade, ...	52,278	37,640,694	52,574	39,871,149	1,587	219,787	1,883	2,450,242
Steam Launches, Local Trade.....	215,974	5,666,901	214,875	5,560,116	1,099	106,785	...	...
Junks. Local Trade, ...	†32,064	†1,576,170	*33,108	*1,754,916	...	...	1,044	178,746
Grand Total...	300,316	44,883,765	300,557	47,186,181	2,686	326,572	2,927	2,628,988
			Net, ...		...	...	241	2,302,416

† Including 15,966 Conservancy and Dust Boats of 903,674 tons.
* „ 18,012 „ „ „ „ of 1,109,384 „.

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Of vessels of European construction 6,274 Ocean Steamers, 4,532 River Steamers and 3,688 Steamships not exceeding 60 Tons entered during the year, giving a daily average of 39.7 ships. Thus:—

Flag.	Steamers.		No. of times entered.		Total Tonnage.	
	1928.	1929.	1928.	1929.	1928.	1929.
British, ...	371	395	5,562	6,100	8,786.202	9,462,545
Japanese, ...	250	263	1,016	1,074	2,829,121	2,969,284
U.S.A., ...	83	87	251	343	1,471,424	1,681,683
Chinese, ...	75	71	1,670	1,620	812,037	610,239
German, ...	60	48	163	187	564,429	594,325
Danish, ...	14	13	70	80	196,780	214,977
Dutch, ...	36	38	245	290	823,506	1,013,048
French, ...	33	26	312	293	724,176	669,354
Italian, ...	5	14	26	53	143,918	250,532
Panamanian, ...	1	—	1	—	388	—
Norwegian, ...	74	83	419	468	613,765	656,395
Portuguese, ...	5	15	81	271	14,380	95,855
Swedish, ...	11	10	43	22	128,955	83,261
Mexican, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siamese, ...	—	1	—	—	(new ship)	—
Belgian, ...	—	4	—	4	—	14,787
Finnish, ...	—	1	—	—	(entered under Br. flag)	
Greek, ...	—	1	—	1	—	3,437
Total.	1,018	1,071	9,859	10,806	17,109,051	18,319,722

Kowloon-Canton Railway.

All the through express trains between Kowloon and Canton continued to be hauled by the British Section engines daily throughout the year with the exception of two periods in May and December, totalling 37 days.

Monthly general revenues showed a steady and healthy increase, and by the end of the year General Revenues had amounted to $890,744.54 against $820,994.90 for the previous year.

General Revenues exceeded Working Expenses by the very satisfactory sum of $138,767.19.

Liabilities under Capital decreased by $82,824.53 under Main Line.

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The Fanling Branch Line equipment unsold was written down to market value, the land handed back to the Government and the value written off the Capital Account. Other items were also written off and debited to Loss on Property Retired.

Additions to Capital were light as there were no heavy engineering works. The principal items were—New Siding at Fanling $4,902.55; New Painting Shop $5,289.40; new machines for Workshops $1,914.96, and other small items, the total Special Expenditure chargeable to Capital being $16,154.09.

Revenues from Rents, which in 1928 amounted to $7,728.57, declined to $5,651.75.

The typhoon of August 22nd did considerable damage to roofs and fencing, but no special vote was required for repairs.

Permanent Way and Structures, Rolling Stock and Plant were maintained as usual.

An unfortunate collision at Shek Tan on the Chinese Section, resulted in considerable damage to a British Section engine, but no serious injury was caused to passengers.

The total train mileage amounted to 288,056 miles, being 4,289 less than last year. This includes trains run over the Chinese Section to and from Canton.

8,280 reinforced concrete sleepers were manufactured and 4,192 were laid in the track as renewals. In addition, 735 bridge and other timbers were renewed.

Post Office.

Mails.—The number of mail receptacles of Hong Kong origin despatched during the year was 43,725 as compared with 35,517 in 1928—an increase of 8,208; the number received was 48,579 as compared with 45,202—an increase of 3,377.

Receptacles in transit, including those to and from British and Foreign Men-of-War, numbered 180,579 as against 175,492 in 1928—an increase of 5,087.

Registered Articles and Parcels.—The number of registered articles handled amounted to 848,135 as compared with 806,980 in 1928—an increase of 41,155.

The figures for insured letters were 19,050 and 17,430 respectively—an increase of 1,620.

Parcels, ordinary and insured, which were dealt with reached total of 411,165 as against 423,880 in 1928—a decrease of 12,715.

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Wireless.

The year 1929 saw further considerable advances made in the reorganisation and establishment on a sound basis of the wireless services of the Colony.

The Kowloon Royal Observatory station is now used as the receiving station for the ship services and as a distant reception station for the Radio Telegraph Office. The Observatory Station operates by remote control the transmitters installed at Cape D'Aguilar which are used for the ship services. The station is also used for the reception of time signals, and long distance weather reports.

Cape D'Aguilar is now a grouped transmitter station for ship services and for point to point transmitters. Reception is not carried on at this station, operation and control of transmitters being done by remote control from the Radio Telegraph Office and the Observatory Station.

Early in the year a new site for a wireless station, to be built and organised on the most up to date lines, was chosen at Victoria Peak. A considerable amount of progress has already been made in the erection of station buildings, masts etc., and two transmitters are already installed there, one working on 350 metres for broadcasting musical programmes, weather reports, news bulletins etc. and the other one working on 49 metres for communication with points in South China and French Indo-China. The station which is still in course of erection will, when completed, accommodate high power short wave long distance transmitters for commercial working with practically all parts of the world. The call signal of Victoria Peak Wireless Station is ZBW and its position is Lat. 22°16′ 38″.56 N., Long. 114°08′ 31″.95 E.

The Radio Telegraph Office on the Ground Floor of the new P. & O. Building is the controlling station for all services. R.T.O. operates by remote control the transmitters installed at Cape D'Aguilar and Victoria Peak which are used for fixed point services, carries on direct and indirect reception, and accepts and distributes radiotelegraphic traffic. Commercial wireless telegraph services are maintained between numerous points in South China, North China, French Indo-China, Siam, British North Borneo, Yunnanfu, Philippines, Dutch East Indies, Dutch Borneo, American Continents, Europe, etc.

The revenue collected by the Post Office during the year from radiotelegrams amounted to $162,517.66 an increase of $20,639.21 on the amount collected in 1928.

Advices of vessels signalled at the Lighthouses yielded $1,021.00, Semaphore messages, $3.60 and Wireless Receiving Station Licences $482.31. The total Revenue from the Telegraph Service amounted to $162,999.97.

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The number of paid radio-telegrams forwarded during the year was 72,153 consisting of 708,282 words against 38,422 consisting of 322,041 words in 1928, and 85,571 were received consisting of 817,571 words against 51,951 consisting of 478,109 words, representing a total increase in the number of messages of 74% and words 91%.

In addition to the paid traffic figures given above the wireless service is responsible for the reception of time signals daily from Bordeaux, Rugby, Malabar and Nauen, for the transmission of time signals to ships in the China Sea, the reception of press messages amounting to 396 messages 222,088 words from Rugby, the collection and distribution of meteorological traffic, having forwarded 4,297 messages 272,985 words, and received 10,915 messages 219,441 words, the reception of Saigon Health Bulletins once weekly, the reception and dissemination of distress, piracy and navigation messages, the transmission and reception of Government messages etc., etc.

Cables.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company (British) by means of three cables to Singapore, one direct and one each *via* Labuan and Cape St. James respectively, provide good connections with Europe *via* India, with Australasia, and with the other British Colonies and possessions. By their cable to Manila connection is made with the direct American cable, thence to San Francisco. Two cables to Shanghai, belonging respectively to the Eastern Extension and to the Great Northern (Danish) Companies, *via* Foochow and Amoy respectively, give a good connection with Shanghai, North China, Japan and Russia; and the system of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. gives a good service to Europe *via* Asiatic Russia.

Telephones.

Telephonic communication, provided by the Hong Kong Telephone Co., is available to most parts of the Colony.

VI.—Justice, Police and Prisons.

Serious crime in 1929 shewed a slight increase over 1928—5349 cases against 5201. Minor crime showed an increase 15792 cases against 14409 cases in 1928. There was an increase in House and Godown Breaking, Larcenies and Robberies, but a decrease in Larceny in Dwelling, Larceny on Ships and Wharves and Burglaries. In the minor offences there was an increase of 1383.

There was an increase of 1 murder and 15 robberies. There was an increase of 7 robberies in the New Territories.

Arms.—There were 6 arms seizures of note during the year, the largest of which was on board S.S. Haiching where 111 Automatic pistols and over 11000 rounds ammunition were found.

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The Arms Embargo was lifted on the 19th April.

Communism.—Communists were less active during the year than in 1928. There were no demonstrations but there was one murder which was the work of communists.

Labour Associations.—No Labour Guilds or Unions were proscribed during the year.

Piracy.—One piracy and one attempted piracy were recorded on steamships, the piracy being on the Japanese S.S. Deli Maru in September. Three Indian guards were shot and 4 passengers were kidnapped. Officers and guards were overpowered and were not able to put up any resistance. Of the 4 kidnapped persons 2 have been released.

The attempted piracy on the S.S. Hai Ching, in December, was frustrated by the action of the officers and guards on the ship. The pirates set fire to the ship. The 2nd officer was killed, and the 1st officer was wounded, 1 Indian guard was killed and 1 wounded, 9 passengers were known to have been killed by bullet wounds and 23 of the crew and passengers were wounded.

Three of the pirates were arrested and charged with piracy and murder. 3 others were detained for banishment. It is believed that none of the pirates, who numbered about 14, escaped; 5 or 6 were killed by the defenders and others jumped overboard.

There was a considerable decrease of piracies on junks during the year in waters adjoining the Colony. Piracy in the Canton River Delta also showed a decrease.

Gaols.—The total number of persons committed to Victoria Gaol was 5,779 as compared with 5,756 in 1928. Of these 1,117 were committed for criminal offences against 1,117 in 1928. Of committals for non-criminal offences there were 220 more for hawking without a licence, and 23 less for unlawfully cutting trees, than in 1928.

The daily average of prisoners confined in the Gaols was 1,075 the average for 1928 being 1,071 and the highest previous average being 1,116 in 1925. The percentage of prisoners to population, according to the daily average of the former and the estimated number of the latter was 0.100. The average percentage for the last ten years was 0.123. Owing, however, to the large floating population, which is constantly moving between the Colony and Chinese Territory, the percentage of crime to population does not convey an accurate idea of the comparative criminality of the residents of the Colony. The Victoria Gaol has accommodation for 700 prisoners including patients in Hospital. The Branch Prison at Laichikok has accommodation for 475 prisoners.

The prison discipline was satisfactory, the average of punishments per prisoner being 0.46 as compared with 0.49 in 1928 and 0.52 in 1927.

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Prisoners are employed at printing, book-binding, tinsmithing, mat-making, tailoring, carpentering, soap-making, gardening, etc. The bulk of the Government printing and book-binding is done in Victoria Gaol.

VII.—Public Works.

Buildings.

During the year progress as stated was made on the following buildings:—

Hong Kong.—The extension of the Ball Room and other alterations at Government House, the erection of a Wireless Station at Victoria Peak, certain alterations to the Central Police Station and extensions to the Police Club at Happy Valley were completed. The Work of erecting new Water Works Workshops on the Praya East Reclamation was commenced in October and was well advanced at the end of the year.

The 2 Public Trough Closets at Wilmer Street and Water Street and the addition of 6 pens to the Sai Wan Ho Pig Lairage were completed. The Public Latrine at the junction of Spring Garden Lane and Cross Street was nearing completion.

A number of minor works were also executed.

Kowloon.—The erection of a Lock-up Store at Yaumati Slipway, additional Latrine accommodation at the Police Training School, and the conversion of "Parkside" for use as a School were completed, and the formation of a Childrens Playground was commenced.

The Public Latrine and Bathhouse at Hung Hom was nearing completion and work on the site for the Maternity Block, Kowloon Hospital, was in progress.

New Kowloon.—The extension to Shamshuipo Market and the Public Latrine and Bathhouse at Shamshuipo were completed. The extension to Kowloon City Market was nearing completion and the Public Latrine and Bathhouse at Kowloon City was in course of erection.

Communications.

Hong Kong.—The site formation and road construction for Village Houses at Wongneichong was completed. Road from Causeway Bay to Quarry Bay, section opposite M.L.'s. 430 and 431; Road Construction at Tai Hang; Barker Road Improvements, from Stubbs Road to Victoria Hospital, and Path to Cape D'Aguilar Wireless Station, 1st Section, were continued.

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Two Bridle Tracks 9½ miles in length were constructed during the year:—

(1) on the South side of the Island, between Wanchai Gap and the road from Wongneichong Gap—Little Hong Kong.

(2) on the North side of the Island, between Wongneichong Gap and Mount Parker Road.

Kowloon.—Argyle Street Extension to a width of 60 feet was completed. Chatham Road Extension and Boundary Street, (section from Nathan Road to No. 8 Railway Bridge) were in course of construction.

Portions of new roads, an aggregate of 1 mile, were macadamized, kerbed and channeled adjoining new buildings erected during the course of the year.

New Kowloon.—In the widening of Castle Peak Road, half width of the roadway was completed. Extension of Roads in Kowloon Tong Development Area was in progress.

Kerbing, channelling and macadamising roads on the Kowloon Tong Estate was completed, the total length of new roads being 3¾ miles.

New Territories.—Patrol Path from Lin Ma Hang to Sha Tau Kok, Widening Path from Sheung Shui to Ta Ku Ling, Access and Patrol Path to Lo Wu Railway Station Block House, Widening road between Fanling and Sha Tau Kok were in progress.

Drainage.

Hong Kong.—The reconstruction of Wongneichong Nullah, Section No. 4 (in front of Jockey Club Stands) was completed in October.

New sewers and storm water drains, including sewers on the Praya East Reclamation, were constructed to a length of 18,064 feet. Existing drains in the Wanchai district were reconstructed to a length of 2,786 feet.

Stream-courses were trained to a length of 1,897 feet.

Kowloon.—New sewers and storm water drains were constructed to a length of 22,261 feet.

Trenches were cut in connection with the anti-malarial campaign.

New Kowloon.—New sewers and storm water drains were constructed to a length of 7,202 feet.

Anti-malarial work was continued.

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The construction of the nullah to connect streams North of hill area at Kowloon Tong was completed.

New Territories.—Various anti-malarial works were carried out at Taipo, and 329 feet of sewers were constructed at Taipo Market.

Water Works.

Hong Kong.—A division wall inside the Albany Service Reservoir was constructed. Turbine and pump for Bowen Road Filters were ordered in England. Extension to Motor House was completed.

1,400 feet 12″ main were laid in Whitfield. 3,460 feet 6″ main were laid through University grounds and along Lyttelton Road and Breezy Path (East). 2,000 feet 6″ main were laid to new Tung Wah Eastern Hospital. Contract was let for North Point Service Reservoir and work begun.

Praya East Reclamation.—18,308 feet 6″, 408 feet 8″ and 2,756 feet of 15″ main were laid and the work completed as far as roads permitted.

Aberdeen Valley Scheme.—Contract was let for Upper Dam etc. and work commenced. Pipes, pumps and filtration plant were ordered in England. Surveys continued for other portions of the scheme.

Kowloon.—590 feet 3″, 230 feet 5″ and 2120 feet 6″ main were laid to keep up with development. 420 feet 10″ main were relaid in Pakhoi Street.

New Kowloon.—A new 6″ supply main 5,700 feet in length was laid from Wong Uk to Shamshuipo. 1,224 feet of 6″ main were laid elsewhere to keep up with development. Supply main consisting of 1,900 feet 4″ and 2,000 feet 3″ was laid to Diamond Hill. Kowloon Tong Estate supply completed, 740 feet 5″ and 780 feet 6″ laid. Special repairs to Kowloon Catchwater continued.

New Territories.—Lower intake was constructed across Shing Mun River for pumping.

Shing Mun Valley Scheme.—1st Section.—The laying of the 1st 24″ diameter Steel Main was continued. 11,800 lin: feet being laid during the year, bringing the total laid to date to 24,130 lin: feet.

Good progress was made with the Service Reservoir in the Sheklaipui Valley and the Eastern half was well forward by the end of the year.

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A Contract was let for the Byewash Reservoir situated immediately below the existing Kowloon Dam and fair progress was made during the year.

Orders for a 12″ diameter Steel Main were placed in England in June for a pipe line across the Harbour and pipes commenced to arrive in September. Actual laying commenced on 17th December.

2nd Section.—Surveys and investigations were continued.

Reclamations.

Hong Kong.—Praya East, about 90 acres, was completed.

A further reclamation of about 2½ acres was commenced at Shaukiwan.

New Kowloon.—Construction was continued on the sea wall to protect the Shamshuipo Reclamation. A length of about 1,400 lineal feet was completed.

The dumping of refuse at Cheung Sha Wan resulted in the reclamation of a total area of approximately 3 acres.

The work of bringing the Kai Tak Reclamation to finished levels was continued.

New Territories.—The Standard Oil Co. continued with the formation of a site at Lai Chi Kok. Progress with this work has been delayed owing to the failure of the sea wall.

Piers.

Kowloon.—At Mong Kok Tsui, construction was commenced on a reinforced concrete ferry pier, 150 feet in length by 50 feet in width.

New Kowloon.—At Shamshuipo, the construction of a ferry pier, 150 feet in length by 50 feet in width, was commenced.

Slipways.

New Kowloon.—The construction of the slipway at the Kai Tak Reclamation was completed. The slipway is 380 feet in length at a grade of 1 in 20 and provides a depth of 6 feet at L.W.O.S.T.

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VIII.—Public Health.

The estimated population of the Colony is as follows:—

(1) *Non Chinese*		18,150
(2) *Chinese*:—		
City of Victoria, ...	577,500	
Villages of Hong Kong	46,080	
Kowloon (and New Kowloon)...	296,480	
Population afloat (Junks & Sampans)	109,050	
New Territories	96,250	
Total Chinese population		1,125,360
Total Civil poulation		1,143,510

The population of Hong Kong is a very variable one and, owing to the large unstable, floating population, and to partial birth registration, no reliable means are available for estimation. For purposes of statistics, the estimated population of the New Territories has been subtracted.

The Crude Birth Rate for the year 1929 was 9.76 per 1,000; 9.56 per 1,000 among the Chinese Community and 19.3 per 1,000 among the non-Chinese.

These figures are very inaccurate and unreliable owing to incomplete registration of Chinese births (especially females) and immigration. There are signs, however, that registration is increasing among the Chinese Community. The non-Chinese rate is more trustworthy.

The Crude Death Rate was 16.77 per 1,000; 16.95 per 1,000 among the Chinese Community and 12.06 per 1,000 among the non-Chinese. As registration is essential before burial can take place the figures for deaths are much more accurate and reliable than those for births.

The ratio of Infantile Deaths (under 1 year) to total deaths for the year 1929 was 38.74%, the figures for 1928 and 1927 being 29.5% and 31.6% respectively.

The Zymotic Death rate was 1.36 per mille population.

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The deaths from Notifiable Infectious Diseases in order of incidence were as follows:—

	Disease.	Chinese	Non-Chinese	Total
1	Small Pox	852	2	854
2	Typhoid	54	7	61
	Paratyphoid	—	—	—
3	Diphtheria	61	3	64
4	Cerebro Spinal Fever	18	2	20
5	Puerperal Fever	9	1	10
6	Plague	2	—	2
	Totals	1,411	15	1,426

There was an epidemic of Smallpox in the last quarter of the year which is still in progress (February 1930); up to 31st December, 1929, there were 149 cases notified of which 119 or 79% have died.

The deaths from special Diseases and locally important causes were as follows:—

Disease.	Chinese	Non-Chinese	Total
Malaria	408	12	420 (1)
Beri-beri	564	2	566 (2)
Respiratory Diseases:—			
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) and Phthisis	2,137	21	2,158 (3)
Non-tubercular	5,221	27	5,248 (3)
Other forms of Tuberculosis	743	6	749
Venereal disease (Syphilis)	227	—	227
Dysentery	188	1	189
Heart disease & Heart failure	425	15	440
Infantile enteritis and Gastro-enteritis (under 1 year)	1,238	7	1,245

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(1) Further antimalarial work is needed in the Colony but many of the cases are likely to have been imported from China.

(2) There is considerable doubt as to the accuracy of these figures as the disease is by no means easy to diagnose or differentiate.

(3) The total figure for Respiratory Diseases and Pulmonary Tuberculosis is 7,406. The climate and conditions of the Colony are most inimical to cure.

The deaths reported in the Coroners' Returns (Chinese only) are as follows, classified according to age and sex:—

Age Periods.	Males	Females
1 Under 2 years	2,329	2,613
2 Over 2 years	1,047	493
Totals	3,376	3,106

Suicides and Deaths from Accidents or Violence amounted to 312:—

(i) Chinese 289
(ii) Non-Chinese 23

These figures include a very large proportion of dumped bodies, especially heavy among infants. This dangerous and revolting practice is hard to eradicate amongst an ignorant population.

There were 2 cases of human plague reported in 1929; one on 18th August and one on 2nd September, both being fatal.

Systematic rat catching was carried out throughout the year, the total number of rats and mice destroyed being 135,417, (Hong Kong 87,786, Kowloon 47,631). Of these 4 were reported from the mortuaries as Plague infected.

The routine work authorised under the by-laws for the Prevention of epidemic endemic and contagious or infectious disease was carried out throughout the year; 97,692 floors were cleansed in Hong Kong and 55,070 floors in Kowloon. Practically all premises were cleansed twice in the year, many were cleansed three times and a few four times. Systematic limewashing of all domestic premises within the areas specified which are occupied by the members of more than one family was similarly supervised, 29,785 floors being limewashed in Hong Kong and 19,202 in Kowloon.

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These two measures ensure a fair standard of cleanliness among the poorer classes of the community.

There were 3 cases of hydrophobia (1 human and 2 canine) throughout the year; 109 dogs were placed under observation and 14 dog brains were examined by the Government Bacteriologist for evidence of rabies.

Government Hospitals.

Civil Hospital.—This hospital consists of three blocks and contains 212 beds in 23 wards. At times of pressure this number has been increased to 230 beds. 100 beds are allotted to the University Clinic. 5,108 In-patients were treated (4,995 in 1928). Of these 1,385 were under the Staff of the University (1,286 in 1928). The daily average number of patients was 178. Attendances at the Out-patient Department numbered 52,127. (56,947 in 1928). The greater part of the work of this Department is done by the Staff of the University.

Attached to the hospital is an isolated Maternity Hospital containing 21 beds. 807 patients were treated during the year (776 in 1928). All the patients, except a few treated by the Government Medical Officers, were under the care of the University Professor of Obstetrics and his assistants. Of those treated, 9 were Europeans and 798 Asiatics.

Mental Hospital.—The Hospital is situated close to the Civil Hospital and is under the direction of the Medical Officer in charge of that hospital. European and Chinese patients are separated, the European portion containing 14 beds in separate wards and the Chinese portion 18 beds.

290 patients of all races were treated during 1929 and there were 20 deaths.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is situated on the western outskirts of the city—it is used mainly for the treatment of Small-pox. The Hospital contains 26 beds to which 40 patients were admitted (11 in 1928).

Victoria Hospital.—This hospital is situated on the Peak and consists of a Main Block and a Maternity Block.

There are 42 beds in the main block in which 506 patients were treated, and 32 beds in the Maternity Block in which 92 were treated.

Kowloon Hospital.—Situated on the mainland has 57 beds. 1,277 patients were treated in 1929 as compared with 1,204 in 1928.

Tung Wah Hospital (Government aided).

Number of beds	460
Number of patients treated in 1929	12,806
Number of patients treated in 1928	11,486

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES BRANCH.

Number of beds	63
Number of patients treated in 1929	186
Number of patients treated in 1928	126

KWONG WAH HOSPITAL, KOWLOON, (Government aided).

Number of beds	292
Number of patients treated in 1929	9,065
Number of patients treated in 1928	8,822

The Hospitals are under the supervision of a Visiting Medical Officer who is a member of the Medical Department.

TUNG WAH EASTERN HOSPITAL (Government aided).

Number of beds	120
Number of patients treated in 1929	223

(Hospital opened November, 1929).

IX.—Education.

The total numbers of pupils at schools in the Colony, excluding the Police School, are:—

	Number of Pupils		Total
	English Schools	Vernacular Schools	
Government Schools	4,020	380	4,400
Military Schools	210	...	210
Excluded Private School	152	...	152
Grant Schools	4,620	987	5,607
Vernacular Schools, Urban District	...	36,407	36,407
Vernacular Schools, Rural District	...	5,747	5,747
Private English Schools	6,361	...	6,361
Technical Institute	598	...	598
Total	15,961	43,521	59,482

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The chief Government Schools are Queen's College, King's College, and three District Schools for Chinese boys, the Belilios Public School for Chinese girls, the Vernacular Middle School and two Vernacular Normal Schools, and the Ellis Kadoorie School for Indians.

The Central British School and Kowloon Junior, Victoria, and Quarry Bay Schools for children of British parentage have an average attendance of 295. There is also a school for children of the Peak District with an average attendance of 57.

There are 6 Grant-in-Aid Anglo-Chinese Schools for boys and 6 for girls, and 4 Grant-in-Aid Vernacular Schools for girls.

The Hong Kong Technical Institute affords an opportunity for high education of students who have left school. Instruction was given in 1929 in Building Construction, Chemistry (Practical), Metallurgy, Physics, Electricity, English, Shorthand, Physical Instruction and Seamanship. Classes for men and women teachers, both "English" and "Vernacular" are a feature of the Institute.

The lecturers are recruited from members of the medical and educational professions in the Colony, and from the Department of Public Works, and receive fees for their services. The Institute is furnished with a well equipped chemical laboratory and excellent physical apparatus.

The expenditure of the Education Department in 1929 was $1,152,375.00 and the revenue collected from Government School fees was $185,659.90.

The University of Hong Kong.

The University of Hong Kong was incorporated under a local University Ordinance, 1911, and opened in 1912. It is a residential University and open to students of both sexes.

The late Sir Hormusjee Mody bore the entire expense of the erection of the main building and additions have been made through the liberality of benefactors of varied nationality and domicile. The latest addition to the buildings is a workshop built out of a contribution from Sir Robert Ho Tung.

The annual income of the University now amounts to about $603,000 of which about $290,000 comes from endowments and $90,000 from Government. Messrs. Butterfield and Swire gave £40,000 to the original endowment fund and subsequently $100,000 for engineering equipment. The Rockfeller Institution has endowed the University with three chairs in surgery, medicine and obstetrics, the endowment being in each case $250,000.

The annual expenditure now amounts to about $666,000.

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The University includes the three Faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Arts. Admission to all faculties is conditional upon passing the matriculation examination of the University or some examination recognised as equivalent thereto.

The Faculty of Medicine provides a six year course of study in the usual pre-medical and medical sciences, leading to the degree of M.B. and B.S. The degrees of M.D., and M.S., may be obtained for postgraduate work. The degrees above mentioned are recognised by the General Medical Council for registration in Great Britain.

The Faculty of Engineering provides a four year course in practical and theoretical engineering, leading to the degree of B.Sc., (Eng.). Fourth year students specialize in civil, mechanical or electrical engineering. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.Sc., (Eng.).

The Faculty of Arts includes departments of pure arts and science, social science, commerce and a department for training teachers. The course is in all cases one of four years and leads to the degree of B.A. The degree for post-graduate work is that of M.A.

With a view to securing the maintenance of the desired standard —which is in all three faculties that of a British University degree— external examiners are, in all faculties, associated with the internal examiners in all annual final examinations. In the Faculty of Engineering, but not in other faculties, degrees with honours are granted, the standard being assessed by special examiners chosen from amongst the external examiners in the University of London.

The degree of LL.D., is granted, *honoris causa*.

The site of the University was given by the Government of Hong Kong. As subsequently enlarged by minor grants and by purchase, the University estate covers an area of 709,789 sq. ft. The view from the grounds over the harbour is magnificent and the grounds are naturally beautiful.

In the main buildings are housed the chemical and physical laboratories, the University library and portions of the engineering laboratories. They further include the Great Hall, a Senate room and the lecture and class rooms used by the Faculty of Arts and for general purposes.

Special medical buildings include schools of anatomy, physiology, pathology and tropical medicine, erected at the cost of Chinese gentlemen resident in the Colony. Clinical instruction is given at the Government Civil Hospital.

Special engineering buildings include:—

(*a*) a power station, with internal combustion engines of varied types which are maintained for instructional purposes;

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(*b*) a primemovers (steam) and hydraulics laboratory, at present housed in a converted pumping station, formerly the property of the Government; and

(*c*) A workshop, for practical instruction of students.

Electrical machinery, electrical technology, the testing of materials and experimental mechanics are dealt with in the main building.

The larger part of the engineering equipment was the gift of British engineering firms.

Other buildings upon the estate include:—

(*a*) the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge

(*b*) Staff-quarters

(*c*) the resident hostels, and

(*d*) the University Union Building.

Unless exempted from residence (such exemption being ordinarily granted on the ground that the student's "manner of life" is not such as is catered for in the hostels), every matriculated student is required to reside either in a University or recognised hostel.

The University hostels are three in number—Lugard Hall, Eliot Hall and May Hall.

Recognised hostels are at present three in number—Morrison Hall, situated immediately above the University grounds and conducted by the London Missionary Society, St. John's Hall, immediately opposite the front of the University, conducted by the Church Missionary Society and Ricci Hall. This hostel, situated in the Pokfulam Road, will be conducted by the Irish Jesuits. It is to be opened in the first month of 1930.

Each student occupies a separate room or cubicle, and there are the usual common rooms. Each University hostel is in charge of a member of the staff, as resident warden.

No University hostel at present exists for women students—whose right to admission to the University was first recognised in 1921: but some arrangements for the accommodation of a few women students in a rented building have been made by the authorities of St. Stephen's Girls' College, a Church of England girls' school which is near the University. The nuns of a neighbouring Italian convent are also prepared to house a few women students.

The tuition fee is $300—the hostel fee which includes board and lodging is $300. A student who is allowed to live in a hostel during a vacation—some have to because of their work, *e.g.* medical students, and others because their homes are too far away—pay at the rate of $8 a week. When a student joins he is required to

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deposit caution money to the extent of $25, and to pay a registration fee of $5. The annual subscription to the University Union is $20 and this covers the annual subscription to practically all the athletic clubs. The graduation fee is $25. Probably about $1,200 represents the minimum amount which at present prices would cover a student's annual expenses including vacations. It would cost a Chinese student who goes abroad $2,500 a year at the very least and this would not cover travelling expenses.

Numerous scholarships are available, including the King Edward VII Scholarships founded by His Majesty's Government. There are also scholarships provided by the Governments of Hong Kong, of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

The Union is the centre of the social life of the students. It is at once a Club and a centre of athletics. The Union Committee contains certain members of the University teaching staff, but its President and Secretary are undergraduates elected by the undergraduates. The undergraduate members of the Committee are also elected by their fellow students. There is a Union magazine with English and Chinese sections. The editors are students, a member of the teaching staff acting as assistant editor. There are thirty-eight women students; these women students are all members of the Union.

Students of the University come from Kwangtung, Ho Pe, Hankow, Hupeh, Yunnan, Hunan, Shanghai, Pekin, Fukien, Singapore, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Kedah, Jahore, Java, Manila, Burma, Siam, Japan, India and Macao. The present enrolment is 315 of whom 266 are Chinese and 49 non-Chinese.

X.—Lands and Surveys.

LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

(1). The amount of premium received from Sales of Crown Land and Pier Rights, exclusive of the New Territories, during the year 1929 was $1,378,301.74 an increase of $186,624.38 on the preceding year, and $662,890.74 more than the average of the previous five years. The principal items were $136,000.00 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2175 and $102,000.00 for Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2205.

(2). The amount of premium received from Sales of Crown Land and Pier Rights in the New Territories during the year under review was $548,312.25 being an increase of $110,561.71 on the preceding year, and $360,712.57 more than the average of the preceding five years. The principal items were $30,010.00 for New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1274 and $25,708.00 for New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1285.

(3). The foregoing increases indicate a further gradual and welcome return to normal conditions.

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The total area of land leased during the year was 455 acres 1 rood and 13-1/5 poles which is a slight decrease on the preceding year.

The total area resumed re-entered and surrendered was 279 acres 3 roods and 32-2/5 poles.

In Hong Kong and Kowloon there was a steadily growing demand for building sites whilst in the Northern District of the New Territories there was little demand for house sites in the development areas but in the villages construction of new houses goes on steadily and there was a fair demand for agricultural land.

There is little to report with regard to the Southern District of the New Territories beyond an increase in the demand for house sites at Cheung Chau which cannot be met until the Reclamation is made, and an increase in the building of new houses at Tai O.

XI.—Labour.

Trade in general remained very dull during the year and with the factories still working much below their full capacity, there was no increase in the number of women and children employed. The knitting factories in Kowloon and the cigarette and perfumery factories in Hong Kong are the largest employers of women and girls, such work being peculiarly suitable for female labour. Several glass factories closed down during the year owing to lack of trade and the high price of coal.

The Industrial Employment of Children Ordinance No. 22 of 1922 was amended by ordinance No. 24 of 1929, and its scope extended to include women and young persons as well as children. The most important regulations made under the amended ordinance are those prohibiting the employment of women in certain dangerous trades and also in any factory between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The year 1929 was remarkably uneventful as regards labour troubles, not a single strike in which more than very few workers were engaged having taken place. A strike threatened amongst the lightermen at the Kowloon Godowns in July, but the trouble came to an end when the masters granted a slight concession in the matter of night-work pay.

There are known to exist in the Colony 150 labour Guilds, with a total membership of over 100,000, but one-third of this figure would probably represent the number of active members. With one or two exceptions Guild activities seem to be at a low ebb, and the interest taken in their Guilds by so-called members is very slight. The supply of labour in the Colony is good, possibly as a result of trouble in the adjacent provinces, and the Guilds are still financially crippled as a result of the 1925 strike. Guilds in Canton are kept under close surveillance by the Government, and this has probably also had a beneficial effect on those in Hong Kong.

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In August, 1929, there appeared evidence of the existence of a communistic organisation known as the Hong Kong Kung Toi Wui (Hong Kong Labour Representatives' Union), which made a systematic attempt to stir up trouble among various bodies of workers, though most of the Guilds remained impervious to its influence. It was eventually located on the 29th September, and of 50 persons then arrested 19 were finally banished. Documents seized proved that it aimed to revive the Hong Kong General Labour Union as an organisation on communist lines carrying on a political agitation against the Government of China.

The Tobacco Workers' Union closed down during the year following the discovery of communist propaganda on its premises and an attempt to injure the manager of a cigar factory by throwing vitriol on him from behind.

XII.—Legislation.

Thirty-four Ordinances were passed during 1929. The most important were the following.

The Tobacco Ordinance, No. 3, abolished the system of manufacture of tobacco in bond and introduced the principle of taxation on the raw material on importation.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Ordinance, No. 6, consolidated and amended the provisions of two Ordinances and of the deed of settlement of 1867. The principal changes are that the powers of the Bank have been increased in accordance with modern developments, and that the Bank is now incorporated for an indefinite period instead of for a limited time.

The Offences Against the Person Amendment Ordinance, No. 13, attempts to legislate for a matter which has been discussed on and off for five years. Section 3 of the Ordinance makes it an offence to take any part in any transaction the object of which is to transfer the possession or control of any minor under eighteen for any valuable consideration, unless the accused can prove that the transaction was *bonâ fide* and solely for the purpose of a proposed marriage or adoption in accordance with Chinese custom. This is an endeavour to strike at the traffic in children. The cases of *bonâ fide* marriage and adoption according to Chinese custom are excepted because money does pass on those occasions, and though the payment of money confers no rights over the minor in Hong Kong law yet it is obviously undesirable to make criminal regular and unobjectionable customs observed by a large part of the population of the Colony.

The British Mercantile Marine Uniform Ordinance, No. 19, prohibits the improper use within the Colony of the British Mercantile Marine uniform prescribed by Order of His Majesty in Council. It is based on the British Mercantile Marine Uniform Act, 1919, 9 and 10 Geo. 5, c. 62.

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The Protection of Women and Girls Amendment Ordinance, No. 21, made various minor alterations in the principal Ordinance, some with a view to strengthening the hands of the authorities in dealing with the traffic in women and girls, and some in order to get rid of certain difficulties and inconsistencies which then existed in the legislation of the Colony.

The Female Domestic Service Amendment Ordinance, No. 22, made various detailed amendments in the principal Ordinance in order to increase its efficiency. Perhaps the most important provision of the Ordinance is one which provides that in every prosecution under the principal Ordinance it shall, until the contrary is proved, be presumed that the girl in question was a mui tsai in the employment of the accused at the time of the alleged offence. This may appear to be drastic, but the difficulties of proof are enormous. In order to prove that a girl was a mui tsai it might be necessary to prove a payment made years ago, outside the Colony, to persons of whom all trace has been lost, and in the absence of the girl herself. On the other hand, the accused should find it comparatively easy to prove the real status of any girl in his household, and the burden is therefore less heavy than it might appear. It must also be remembered that the consent of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is required for any prosecution under the Ordinance.

The Industrial Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Amendment Ordinance, No. 24, is intended as a further step in the improvement of factory conditions in the Colony. Such improvement must be slow and gradual, and it is very difficult in such matters to travel far ahead of neighbouring countries. The principal effect of the Ordinance is to include women and young persons within the scope of the principal Ordinance so that their employment in factories, as well as that of children, can be regulated.

XIII.—Miscellaneous.

Emigration and Immigration.

Two hundred and twenty seven thousand five hundred and twenty-three (227,523) Emigrants left Hong Kong for various places during the year 1929; of these 114,323 were carried in British ships and 113,200 in Foreign vessels.

One hundred and eighty five thousand three hundred and ninety (185,390) returning emigrants were reported to have been brought to Hong Kong from the several places to which they had emigrated either from this Colony or from Coast ports as against 187,847 in 1928. Of these 103,261 were brought in British vessels and 82,129 in Foreign vessels.

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Statement of number of emigrants to Straits Settlements 1920-1929 as compared with total number of emigrants from Hong Kong.

	To Straits Settlements.	Total No. of Emigrants.
1920	43,935	105,258
1921	87,324	156,011
1922	50,356	98,393
1923	65,584	120,224
1924	75,682	129,859
1925	97,552	140,534
1926	157,285	216,527
1927	202,408	285,593
1928	169,741	257,162
1929	146,516	227,523

Institutions.

Among institutions recognised and encouraged, but not to any considerable extent supported by Government may be mentioned the Po Leung Kuk, the Eyre Refuge, the City Hall, and the Chinese Public Dispensaries.

The Po Leung Kuk Society was founded in 1878 to aid in the detection and suppression of kidnapping, especially of girls and women, and to shelter such girls or women as had been kidnapped in the interior and brought to Hong Kong for sale or emigration. Its name means "institution for the protection of good women." The initiative in its formation came from the Chinese themselves, and ever since by subscription and personal service, they have continued to support it.

There is a paid Chinese staff-matron, amahs and nurses, and two clerks who are secretaries to the managing committee. This Committee meets every evening from Monday to Friday at 7 p.m. the principal meeting of the week being held at 12 noon on Sunday. It not only manages the Po Leung Kuk, but acts as an advisory committee to the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, in all cases affecting women and children, and Chinese family life generally, which are often extremely difficult and tedious. It corresponds when necessary with charitable institutions and private persons in various parts of China, traces parents of lost children or ill-treated mui tsai, and shelters for the night any Chinese woman or girl who chooses to go. When parents or relations cannot be traced, the Committee arranges for the girls in its care to be given in marriage (never as concubines) or in adoption, always under bond and always with the consent of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs, and in every case that officer ascertains the girl's willingness before giving consent to either adoption or marriage.

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In addition to the annual Committee appointed by co-option there is a Permanent Committee, which serves to maintain continuity of policy, and of which the Secretary for Chinese Affairs is the ex-officio chairman.

The number of inmates of the Po Leung Kuk on 1st January, 1929, was 61 and during the year 636 persons were admitted as against 622 in 1928.

The Chinese Public Dispensaries are institutions maintained in order to provide the Chinese with the services of doctors, whose certificates will be accepted by the Registrar of Deaths, and with the services of interpreters, who can assist the inmates of houses, where a case of infectious disease has occurred. Coolies are engaged and ambulances and dead vans provided in order to remove cases of infectious disease to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and dead bodies to the Mortuary. The Dispensaries receive sick infants and send them to one or other of the Convents and arrange for the burial of dead infants. Free advice and medicine are given and patients are attended at their houses. There are eight Dispensaries in existence. The Government makes an annual grant of $2,000, and the rest of the cost is defrayed by voluntary subscription. The Dispensaries are conducted by committees under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Chinese Affairs.

The Tung Wah Hospital, opened in 1872, is mainly supported by the voluntary subscriptions of Chinese, but receives annual grants from the Government amounting to $20,500. Only Chinese are treated in this institution. Various other services not appertaining to a hospital are performed by the institution, such as the free burial of the poor, the repatriation of destitutes, the maintenance of free vernacular schools, and the organisation of charitable relief in emergencies; Chinese as well as European methods of treatment are employed in accordance with the wishes expressed by the patients or their friends.

The hospital is managed by a committee of Chinese gentlemen annually elected, their appointment being submitted to the Governor for confirmation.

The Eastern Branch of the Tung Wah Hospital at Sookunpo was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor on November 27th. The building which was erected and equipped at a cost of over $300,000 is in every way a credit to the promoters of the scheme and to the Chinese community generally which contributed 95% of the funds required for the purpose.

The Kwong Wah Hospital opened in 1912 is situated on the Kowloon Peninsula at Yaumati. It is similar to the Tung Wah Hospital with which it is closely affiliated and is managed by its own committee of directors under the guidance of the parent institution. About 50% of its expenditure is met by grants from government and the balance from endowments and voluntary subscriptions. During the year a new block of four storeys was erected for the accommodation of maternity cases at a cost of some $60,000.

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ST. LUCIA

REPORT FOR 1929.

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ST. LUCIA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT, 1929.

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Geography and History.

The island of St. Lucia is situated in latitude 13° 54′ North and longitude 60° 59′ West, at a distance of 24 miles to the south-east of Martinique and 21 miles to the north-east of St. Vincent.

It is 27 miles in length and 14 at its greatest breadth ; its circumference is 150 miles and its area 233 square miles, rather less than Middlesex.

Castries, the capital, is situated at the north-western end of the island, and has a population, according to the census of the 24th April, 1921, of 5,899.

The port of Castries is one of the best harbours in the West Indies. It is land-locked and provides facilities for coaling and watering ships and for loading and discharging cargo which are unequalled in these islands.

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The town of next importance is Soufriere, which lies about 12 miles to the south of Castries and contains a population of 2,480. Just below Soufriere Bay stand the remarkable twin peaks known as "The Pitons," rising sheer from the sea to a height of 2,619 feet in the case of the Gros Piton and to 2,461 feet in that of the Petit Piton. The boiling sulphur springs from which Soufriere gets its name are situate at Ventine, two and a-half miles south-east of the town.

It is generally accepted that St. Lucia was discovered by Columbus, during his fourth voyage, on the 18th June, 1502. There is, however, a tradition amongst the French that it was discovered on the 13th December of a later year by some shipwrecked French seamen, who named it St. Alouziel or St. Alousie after the martyred virgin Saint of that name, whose feast is commemorated on that date.

The island was then inhabited by the Caribs, and they remained in undisturbed possession for another century.

In 1605, 67 persons proceeding to Guiana by the English ship *Olive Blossom* were forced by famine to land in the island, and they remained "to take their fortune in the fruitful isle." They were not able to stay longer than a month, however, when, reduced to 19 by fights with the Caribs, they left in an open boat and reached the mainland of South America in sore distress. This is the first recorded instance of a landing by Englishmen in the island.

In 1626 a Commission was granted by Cardinal Richelieu to MM. d'Enambuc and du Rossay to establish a French Colony "in the islands of St. Christopher and Barbados and in the surrounding territories," which presumably included St. Lucia, and in 1627 the island was granted by the King of England, along with all the Caribbee Islands, to the Earl of Carlisle, who appointed Lord Willoughby of Parham to be Governor of Barbados and the other Caribbee Islands. In 1635 it appears to have been granted by the King of France to MM. de l'Olive and Duplessis.

In 1638 Captain Judlee of St. Kitts (acting in the name of Lord Willoughby) and three or four hundred men took possession of the island and attempted to effect a settlement in it, but in 1640 these early colonists were either massacred or expelled by the Caribs.

In 1642 the King of France, still claiming a right of sovereignty over the island, ceded it to the French West India Company, who sold it in 1650 to MM. Honel and du Parquet for the equivalent of £1,600. The Caribs made repeated attempts to expel the French, but failed, and finally, in 1660, they concluded a treaty of peace with the latter.

In 1663 Thomas Warner, the natural son of the Governor of St. Christopher, made a descent on St. Lucia and took possession of it. The English continued in occupation until the Peace of Breda, in 1667, when the island was restored to the French. In 1674 it was re-annexed to the Crown of France and made a dependency of Martinique.

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Throughout the eighteenth century recurrent struggles took place between the English and the French for possession of the island, the more important occurring in the latter half of the century. In 1762 it surrendered to the joint operations of Admiral Rodney and General Monckton, but was returned to France by the Treaty of Paris in the following year. In 1778 it again surrendered to the British, who remained in occupation until 1783 when, by the Peace of Versailles, St. Lucia was once more restored to France. It was from Pigeon Island, off the north-western coast of St. Lucia, during the period of this occupancy that Rodney sighted the French Fleet of 36 sail of the line, under the Comte de Grasse, prior to giving them battle and defeating them in the memorable naval action of the 12th April, 1782. The island was again taken by the British in 1794, but they were forced by the French Republican party in the island, aided by insurgent slaves under " Citoyen " Victor Hughes, the Civil Commissary of Guadeloupe, to evacuate it in the following year. In 1796, after an obstinate and sanguinary struggle, that party laid down their arms and surrendered as prisoners of war to a force 12,000 strong under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie supported by a squadron under the command of Sir Hugh Christian. Sir John Moore, the subsequent hero of Corunna, took part in this operation as Brigadier-General Moore, and remained in the island as Governor thereafter. The British retained possession of the island until 1802, when it was restored to France by the Treaty of Amiens ; but on the renewal of hostilities it surrendered by capitulation to General Greenfield on the 22nd June, 1803, since when it has continued under British rule. As a result of the operations of 1778, 1796, and 1803, no fewer than thirteen British regiments have " St. Lucia " inscribed on their colours.

Climate.

The climate is healthy and compares favourably with other West Indian islands.

The temperature seldom rises above 90° in the hot season, May to November, or falls below 70° in the cool season, December to May ; the yearly average being about 83° noon shade temperature. On Morne Fortune, just above Government House, where a portion of the garrison was located, the temperature in the winter months falls as low as 60°, and throughout the year it remains mild and pleasant.

Temperature records during 1929 at the Botanic Station, Castries, show a mean noon temperature of 84.7° in the shade. The maximum temperature was 92° and the minimum 65°, a temperature range of 27°.

The total rainfall recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Castries, for the year 1929 was 102.04 inches. This was 11.79 inches above the

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average for the last 39 years (=90.25 inches). Maximum precipitation occurred on 5th October, when 4.85 inches of rain fell at Castries. In the wetter parts of the Colony, however, the rainfall ranged from 6 inches to 13.5 inches on this date.

The weather generally was fair and cool, with few storms.

Vital Statistics.

On 31st December, 1928, the resident population of the Colony was computed to have been 56,917—males, 26,393 ; females, 30,524. On 31st December, 1929, the figure increased to 57,482—males, 26,801 ; females, 30,681. The natural increase during 1929 was 616, and during the year there was an excess of departures from as compared with arrivals in the Colony of 51. The total increase was 565.

The number of inhabitants per square mile in the Colony is computed at 246.

The births (including still-births, which numbered 100) totalled 1,898—males, 921 ; females, 977. The birth-rate (excluding still-births) was 31.2 per thousand of the population—a decrease of 2 per thousand as compared with the previous year.

The deaths (including still-births) numbered 1,282—males, 623 ; females, 659. The death-rate (excluding still-births) was 20.5 per thousand of the population—an increase of .7 per thousand on the previous year.

Principal causes of death (other than still-births) were :—malaria, 63 ; syphilis, 80 ; bronchitis, 52 ; pneumonia, 54 ; gastro-enteritis, 89 ; worms, 105 ; and senile decay, 142. Two of these—gastro-enteritis and worms—are the causes of many of the infant deaths.

Languages.

English is, of course, the language of the Colony, but the large majority of the population speak a French patois. Notwithstanding the fact that primary education is imparted in English entirely it is still true that, in the elementary schools, most of the children have to be taught English before they can assimilate a knowledge of the rudiments of education. This is undoubtedly a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, but it can only be by persistent educational effort that the people as a whole will eventually learn to speak and think in the national language.

Currency.

The coinage of Great Britain is the currency of the Colony, while local Government currency notes of the value of 10*s.* and 5*s.* are in circulation, as well as the notes of Barclays Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada, both of which have branches in Castries.

Weights and Measures.

The Imperial weights and measures are in use in the Colony.

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I.—GENERAL.

The year 1929 was one of steady progress and improvement in many directions. Notwithstanding the great financial stringency and the difficulty of finding money for very necessary works, it has been possible to do a good deal of useful work.

In agricultural matters there has been considerable development and there is abundant evidence of increased interest. Much new cultivation has been started, and, under the supervision of the newly-appointed Agricultural Instructor and Adviser, the peasant proprietors and small cultivators are going in for new crops and paying more attention to the old ones. Were it not for the deplorable condition of the sugar industry, the whole outlook would be much more favourable.

The export of fruit and vegetables is one branch of agricultural development which promises well for the future and steps are being taken to introduce at an early date measures for the proper inspection, grading, and packing of all fruit exported from the Island. The experimental shipments of fruit already made have met with varying success but, on the whole, they have proved that there is profitable business to be done in the future. There have been many difficulties in disposing of fruit and vegetables in the countries to which these articles are exported but, here again, a great deal has been learnt through recent experience and there is every hope that we shall be able to enter into satisfactory marketing arrangements in the near future.

The rebuilding of Castries was considerably advanced during the year and several fine buildings were completed and brought into use. Among these may be mentioned the new Government Offices, and those of Messrs. Peter and Company and Minvielle and Chastanet, the Good Shepherd's Hall, and the new cinema theatre erected by Mr. R. G. H. Clarke.

The coastal motor boat service was handed over to private enterprise as from June. This service is operated by the St. Lucia Navigation Company, by means of the M.L. *Soufriere* which was build in England. It is anticipated that this change will result in considerable saving to the Government.

Among the important events of the year was the establishment of two Air Services between the United States of America and South America. These are being carried out by Pan-American Airways, Incorporated, and the New York, Rio, and Buenos Aires Line, Incorporated. Both of these services have received permission to make St. Lucia a fuelling station and port of call. Pan-American Airways have been given permission to utilize a portion of the foreshore at La Toc as a landing place for their planes. Permission has also been given to the New York, Rio, and Buenos Aires Line to moor a pontoon in the harbour for the purpose of fuelling their planes. Both these concerns carry mails and passengers. The first

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airplane to arrive at St. Lucia with mails belonged to Pan-American Airways and was piloted by Colonel Lindbergh on the 22nd September.

During the year arrangements were made for the erection in the Carnegie Library of a bronze tablet in memory of the men of St. Lucia who lost their lives in the Great War. This was unveiled on 31st July by His Honour the Administrator.

Another outstanding event of the year was the visit of the Sugar Commission appointed by the Secretary of State under the Chairmanship of Lord Olivier, P.C., K.C.M.G. The Commission called at St. Lucia on the 27th October, 1929, and returned on the 9th November, leaving on the 11th of that month. Their findings were subsequently published in Cmd. 3517.

II.—FINANCE.

The revenue and expenditure of the Colony during the last five years were as follows :—

Year.	*Ordinary Revenue.*	*Ordinary Expenditure.*	*Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.*
	£	£	£
1925	75,555	85,082	9,527
1926	83,379*	84,488	1,109
1927	82,491†	84,219	1,728
1928	85,351‡	87,235	1,884
1929	83,139§	86,434	3,295

Taxation was increased during 1929 by—

(1) The Customs Duties Amendment Ordinance, increasing the bulk of the *ad valorem* duties on imports by 50 per cent., and applying the surcharge of 25 per cent. to imports of wheaten flour.

(2) The Export Duties Amendment Ordinance, increasing the duty on lime oils.

(3) The Trade Licences Ordinance.

The Public Debt of the Colony (including Guaranteed Loans) stood at £186,010 at the close of the year, being £13,449 less than at 31st December, 1928. A loan of £3,367 was raised during the year on behalf of the Castries Town Board for reconstructing the Castries Water Works. The accumulated Sinking Fund for the redemption of the Public Debt amounted to £54,688, as compared with £62,673 at the end of 1928.

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* In addition £70,180 was received as proceeds of the issue of a Debt Reduction Loan.

† Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £7,000.

‡ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,836.

§ Includes Imperial Grant-in-Aid of £3,000.

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III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

In consequence of the difficulties experienced in disposing of the principal economic products at a reasonable profit, agriculturists have turned their attention to other crops. The supply of fruits and vegetables, and possibly dairy products, to the growing Canadian market, opens new possibilities to the producer. That this is being realized is shown in the steady growth in the export of these items which previously were shipped in a desultory fashion. Other alternative crops which are now being planted fairly extensively are coffea arabica (Jamaica Blue Mountain), pine-apples, papaw, nutmegs and other spices, pigeon peas and haricot beans.

The plant propagation service of the Agricultural Department has been expanded to meet this demand, and to create further demands for suitable products. At Union Station the site used for propagation has now been occupied nearly two years and has proved entirely satisfactory. More extensive developments are in preparation for the present year and an orchard plot of the principal trees recommended to the planter is being prepared in order to arrive at costs of production.

Sugar.—The year 1929 was a depressing one for the sugar industry owing to the low market value of raw sugar, and in consequence of the poor demand for fancy molasses many small growers have ceased to grow sugar cane. The area in cane is therefore less than formerly, being now about 4,300 acres as against 4,750 acres. One factory has planted the cane area in coconuts. The factories made a large crop of sugar cane, and produced 4,997 tons of sugar as against 4,042 tons in 1928, with a larger quantity of molasses. The amount exported for 1929 was 4,536 tons of sugar as against 4,100 tons in 1928. The average export price was, however, very low, being £12 10*s.* 0*d.* per ton of sugar.

The following figures show the quantity and value of sugar products exported during the last five years :—

Sugar (Vacuum Pan).

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Cwt.	£
1925	97,772	72,559
1926	95,140	65,444
1927	88,640	74,200
1928	82,000	63,050
1929	90,720	51,237

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Sugar (Muscovado).

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1925	8,614	4,774
1926	9,138	5,414
1927	3,560	2,235
1928	—	—
1929	—	—

Molasses and Syrup.

Year.	*Quantity.* Gals.	*Value.* £
1925	153,413	7,818
1926	156,424	8,659
1927	156,050	7,634
1928	85,784	3,643
1929	127,273	3,047

Rum.—The quantity and value of rum exported during the last five years is shown below :—

Year.	*Quantity.* P. Gals.	*Value.* £
1925	63	25
1926	37	11
1927	1,700	212
1928	1,323	218
1929	2,013	339

Practically all the rum produced in the island is consumed locally.

Cacao.—The cacao market has been poor and low prices were received during the year, ranging from 45*s.* to 52*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. The total crop was below the average, being affected by wet weather diseases and difficulties in drying the beans.

The quantity and value of cacao exported during the last five years are as follows :—

Year.	*Quantity.* Cwt.	*Value.* £
1925	10,444	22,339
1926	10,037	22,454
1927	12,183	30,560
1928	11,006	27,321
1929	8,906	18,864

Limes.—Although weather conditions were apparently not very favourable, a good lime crop was made and good prices were received for it. Concentrated lime juice varied in price from £28 to £20 per pipe c.i.f., handpressed lime oil realized prices ranging from 54*s.* to 74*s.* per lb., and distilled oil realized from 33*s.* to 25*s.* per lb. towards the end of the year.

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Calculated in barrels of green limes the crops for the last five years are :—

Year.	*Quantity.*
	Barrels.
1925	63,406
1926	59,415
1927	58,948
1928	30,107
1929	37,345

Coconuts.—The coconut production continues to increase and the quantity of nuts exported during 1929 was double that of the previous year. The export of copra was also greater. Owing to poor demand for coconut oil and soap the St. Lucia Oil Mills closed down towards the end of the year. The price of copra fell from £25 to £19 per ton c.i.f. Coconuts and coconut products exported during the last five years are :—

Coconuts.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Number.	£
1925	123,516	432
1926	118,501	381
1927	96,813	351
1928	141,667	499
1929	295,983	1,032

Coconut Oil.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Gals.	£
1925	6,323	791
1926	19,081	3,847
1927	3,921	735
1928	931	184
1929	—	—

Copra.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Cwt.	£
1925	1,981	3,563
1926	1,591	1,808
1927	4,077	4,409
1928	6,301	8,690
1929	7,195	9,878

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Coconut Meal.

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Tons.	£
1925	12	106
1926	42	778
1927	7	88
1928	4	38
1929	1½	6

Bananas.—The exports during the last five years were as follows:—

Year.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
	Bunches.	£
1925	20,818	1,374
1926	46,209	4,356
1927	27,052	2,351
1928	5,543	338
1929	6,818	509

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The state of the trade of the Colony, as reflected by the values and quantities of imports and exports during the year 1929, as compared with 1928, was as follows :—

Imports.

	1929.	1928.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	78,740	80,669
II. Raw material and articles mainly unmanufactured.	60,484	46,418
III. Materials wholly or mainly manufactured.	97,952	105,703
IV. Miscellaneous and unclassified articles, including Parcel Post.	7,577	9,263
Total value ...	£244,753	£242,053

In the above table the total for 1929 is in excess of 1928 by £2,700 only. The decreases in Classes I, III, and IV are more than counterbalanced by the increase in Class II, which includes an increased amount of coal imported in 1929.

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The values of imports for 1929 and 1928, classified according to country of origin, were as follows :—

	1929.	1928.
	£	£
United Kingdom	68,101	92,756
Other parts of the British Empire	66,922	67,297
Foreign Countries	102,230	73,959
Parcel Post	7,500	8,041
	£244,753	£242,053

The above table shows a decrease of no less than £24,655 or 26·58 per cent. in imports from the United Kingdom, and an increase of no less than £28,271 or 38·23 per cent. in those from Foreign Countries. Decreased importations of coal, sugar-manufacturing machinery, cotton goods, and manures account for the reduction in the former case, while increased importation of coal accounts in the main for the rise in the latter.

The values of imports of articles amounting to £5,000 or more during 1928 and 1929 were as follows :—

Article.	1928.	1929.
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	7,518	4,610
Coal, bituminous	25,229	48,739
Cotton—		
Piece goods	10,930	10,269
Other manufactures ...	13,904	9,075
Fish, salted, dried, etc. ...	9,394	9,166
Flour, wheaten	25,367	25,455
Hardware	5,727	4,744
Lumber—spruce and white pine	5,793	1,680
Machinery, sugar manufacturing	10,519	4,268
Manures	2,625	5,421
Oil, edible	6,274	5,950

Of greatest interest in the above table is the item coal, which increased by no less than £23,510 or 93·19 per cent. in 1929. The considerable increase in manures (106·51 per cent.) evidences continuing efforts in the sugar industry despite falling prices. The imports of boots and shoes and sugar manufacturing machinery were much above the average in 1928, and so diminished in 1929. The increase in the import duty on flour (25 per cent. surcharge) made no appreciable difference in its consumption : the quantity imported was only 147 barrels less. The majority of the buildings destroyed by the Castries fire of May, 1927, having now been replaced, the demand for lumber was very much less in 1929.

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That there are openings for British products is shown by the following table :—

Article.	*Total value of Imports in* 1929.	*Imports from British Empire.*
	£	£
Cotton manufactures, piece goods	10,269	7,532
Manures	5,421	89
Iron and Steel manufactures ...	3,635	3,266
Wood and Timber—Shooks and Staves.	1,289	568
Bags and Sacks, empty ...	3,510	3,368
Butter and substitutes ...	3,353	1,215
Oleomargarine	2,309	54
Motor cars	1,636	882
Cement	2,409	1,413
Totals	£33,831	£18,387

Exports.

The values of exports in 1929, classified under five main divisions, were as follows :—

	1929.	1928.
	£	£
I. Food, drink, and tobacco ...	92,002	108,567
II. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.	74,661	49,505
III. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured.	24,537	31,836
IV. Miscellaneous	357	730
V. Bullion and Specie	7,443	7,198
Total value ...	£199,000	£197,836

The decrease in the above table in Class I was due to reduced exports of cocoa, molasses, and green limes, and the reduced price obtained for sugar, 436 tons more of which was exported in 1929 and £11,813 less obtained. The increase in Class II was due to increased exports of bunker coal (£24,727), copra (£1,188), and logwood (£375). The decrease in Class III resulted from less exports of lime oil (£3,362), charcoal (£602), bay oil (£288), bricks (£1,631), and metals (£999).

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The following table shows the character and individual values of the main exports :—

	Value in 1929. £	*Value in* 1928. £
Cocoa	18,864	27,321
Lime and Lime Products ...	20,440	29,687
Sugar	51,237	63,050
Fancy Syrup and Molasses ...	3,047	3,643
Logwood	2,713	2,338
Bunker Coal	60,138	35,411
Copra	9,878	8,690

The values of the exports, domestic and other, classified according to destination, were as follows :—

EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).

Destination.	£	*Total.* 1929. £	*Total* 1928. £
United Kingdom—			
Domestic Exports	43,376		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	77		
		43,453	56,529
Other parts of the British Empire—			
Domestic Exports	56,674		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie)	1,147		
		57,821	62,899
Foreign Countries—			
Domestic Exports	28,978		
Re-exports (not including Bullion and Specie).	168		
		29,146	35,244
Ships' Stores—Re-exports ...	996		
Bunkers—Re-exports	60,138		
		61,134	35,966
Totals		£191,554	£190,638

Coaling.—The coaling business, for which there are exceptional facilities ensuring the quickest despatch, and which, after being for many years a source of considerable wealth to the Colony had declined somewhat, now happily shows some signs of revival, and the exports of bunker coal in 1929 exceeded those of 1928 by 18,145 tons. Coaling affords an appreciable amount of irregular employment to a number of labourers living in the capital and its vicinity.

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V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.—The number of ships entered and cleared during the year was 1,224, of a total tonnage of 1,700,139. Of this total 667 were steamships and 557 sailing vessels. In addition to the above, 40 American seaplanes visited the Colony from September to December.

Mail communication is maintained by (1) a regular fortnightly steamer service to other British West Indian Colonies and to Canada by means of the Canadian National Steamships, (2) a monthly service via Martinique to Europe by means of the steamers of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, (3) a monthly service to the United States of America and certain of the neighbouring Islands by steamers of the Furness Withy Company, and (4) a seaplane service twice a week to North and South America and certain neighbouring British and Foreign Colonies carried out by planes of Pan-American Airways, Incorporated, and the New York, Rio, and Buenos Aires Line, Incorporated. There are other frequent mail opportunities via Barbados and America and direct to Europe.

Roads.—There are 125 miles of main roads, 144 miles of by-ways and 74 miles of unclassified roads. Of the total 167 miles are suitable for motor traffic.

Castries is connected with Soufriere and Vieux-Fort and other points on the leeward side of the Island by a motor-launch service. Until June, 1929, this was carried out by the Government but in that month it was undertaken by a private company under contract with the Government. On the windward side subsidized motor-bus services exist between Castries and Dennery and Vieux-Fort and Micoud.

Telegraphic communication is maintained by the Pacific Cable Board and the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, Limited.

Inland Telegraphs.—There is no telegraph system in the island.

Telephones.—The telephone system is operated entirely by the Government and consists of 110 miles of trunk lines and 204 miles of branch lines. There are ten exchanges and 210 subscribers.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice is administered by the Royal Court, over which the Chief Justice presides, and by three District Courts, over which two Magistrates preside. The Royal Court has an original civil and criminal jurisdiction and also decides appeals from the District Courts. Appeals from the Royal Court are heard and determined by the West Indian Court of Appeal constituted under the West Indian Court of Appeal Act, 1919, of the Imperial Parliament.

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An adequate Police Force is maintained to enforce the decisions of these bodies and to provide generally for the peace of the Colony and the security of life and property. Besides ordinary Police duties, this Force assists in the administration of Poor Relief, and provides the main portion of the Castries Fire Brigade.

There is one gaol, the Royal Gaol, situated in Castries, which contains separate prisons for male and female convicts. The institution has its own bakery which supplies excellent bread to all the public institutions and, in addition to stone-breaking and carrying out useful work outside the walls, certain of the prisoners are taught carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking.

VII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony during 1929, from the records returned, was good and showed a distinct improvement on that of the preceding year.

No epidemic occurred, and the incidence of typhoid, tuberculosis, and malaria was the lowest recorded for many years. Intestinal parasitic infestation, although fairly widespread, was not so great as in previous years, and with the appointment of a microscopist who is to operate in each District under the direct supervision of the District Medical Officer and who will be assisted by the District Sanitary Inspector it is hoped that permanent reduction of this ailment will result.

The Colony is divided into six Medical Districts, to each of which is attached a Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector, with Dispensaries in each District. In addition to these there is a Chief Medical Officer who is also Resident Surgeon of the Victoria Hospital, Health Officer and Bacteriologist; and there is a Chief Sanitary Inspector whose headquarters are at Castries but who makes regular visits of inspection all over the island.

The medical institutions consist of the Victoria Hospital, the largest and principal hospital in the Colony, situated in close proximity to the town of Castries, with a staff consisting of a Resident Surgeon, a European Matron, and local nurses and dispensers. Attached to this hospital is a private wing with six rooms for paying patients. There are three small casualty hospitals situated in Soufriere, Vieux-Fort, and Dennery, the towns next in importance to Castries. The Medical Department also maintains a Port Health Officer, a conveniently situated and suitably equipped Quarantine Station, and Pauper, Leper, and Lunatic Asylums.

Sanitation and Hygiene.—During the year a Child Welfare Association was formed, in connection with which clinics are being held at the Castries General Dispensary three times a week; and with the help of the energetic Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and her band of voluntary assistants very encouraging results have been obtained.

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The routine work of the Department was carried out throughout the year along the established lines, and were supplemented by the following important measures :—

(*a*) The enforcement of the Bakeries Regulations, one of the principal of which is the medical examination and registration of itinerant sellers of bread and cakes and the provision by each of them of a standardized bread box, to prevent contamination by dust and flies.

(*b*) The installation of an unpolluted pipe-borne water supply at the village of Micoud.

(*c*) The erection of a model incinerator, with drying shed attached, in the old Marchand Cemetery.

The standard of sanitation reported upon in the previous year has been improved in many ways and fully justified the increase which was approved in the vote for Sanitary Services for the year 1929.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

Primary Education.—There are 49 recognized primary schools, which are all denominational, assisted by Government grants-in-aid. Forty-two are under Roman Catholic management, four Anglican, and three Wesleyan. The teachers' salaries are paid almost entirely by Government from the grant-in-aid, which totals nearly £5,000 per annum, the managing religious bodies contributing just over £50 in 1929 towards the required sum. The grants-in-aid are administered by an Inspector of Schools, a Government Officer who supervises the expenditure under the ultimate control of the Governor in Council. Primary education is free and compulsory between the ages of 6 and 14 years, though school managers have the right to exact fees not exceeding one penny per week from each pupil if they desire to do so. It is probable that not more than 60 or 70 per cent. of the children of school age are actually attending.

Instruction is provided in reading, writing, arithmetic, dictation, recitation, and hygiene. English is the medium of instruction in the juvenile schools, and a combination of English and the local "Patois" in the infant schools, the "Patois" being utilized only when necessary to explain the meaning of English words. English is taught in the infant schools by means of object lessons, the children being taught simple English phrases and how to answer easy questions. In the lower standards of the juvenile schools, English is taught by means of object lessons, and the upper standards take English composition, English grammar and geography. Agriculture is taught in most of the juvenile schools to both boys and girls, many of the schools possessing excellent gardens, which are maintained by the teachers and pupils under the supervision of an agricultural instructor, who is a Government Officer. These gardens provide the pupils with

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material for practical work and as a general rule a real interest is taken in them. Domestic economy and practical cooking are taught to the girls in some of the schools and the results obtained in these subjects are generally good. Government assistance is given periodically towards the provision of garden tools and cooking utensils.

Secondary Education.—A secondary course is provided for boys at St. Mary's College. The course now includes agricultural science and some commercial subjects. The school prepares pupils for the examinations of the Cambridge University Local Examinations Syndicate and for the Matriculation Examination of London University. St. Joseph's Convent School provides a secondary course for girls and prepares pupils for the Cambridge Local Examinations. The St. Lucia Scholarship of the value of £175 per annum, which was awarded by the Government biennially on the results of the London University Matriculation Examination, to candidates having the requisite residential, educational, and other qualifications, has been discontinued for the present owing to the Colony's financial difficulties, eight scholarships having been awarded up to the time of suspension in 1929.

Twelve scholarships at St. Mary's College are now awarded by the Government to boys attending primary schools, on the results of competitive examinations. These scholarships are tenable for one year and are then renewable from year to year for five years more.

IX.—LABOUR.

There is, generally, an ample supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony, the chief sources of employment being the sugar estates and other large plantations. The Public Works Department and the coal bunkering companies are also considerable employers of labour. There is a steady demand for tradesmen, but the supply is limited. Relations between employers and labourers have been generally satisfactory. A certain number of St. Lucia labourers are periodically recruited for work in Santo Domingo and, last year for the first time, in Venezuela. All arrangements in regard to this labour are made through the Government and the recruiting agents are required to enter into a bond for carrying out the terms of the contract made between them and the labourers. The continued depression of the sugar market is having its effect on sugar estates, resulting in a considerable reduction of labourers and consequent unemployment. There was thus, at the end of 1929, a surplus of labour for which no employment was available. New Public Works, such as drainage and road schemes, and agricultural extension aimed at developing peasant agriculture, are projects which will help to reduce unemployment.

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X.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency the Governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Frederick Seton James, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., was in residence in the Colony from the 19th January to the 4th February.

The following British ships of war visited the colony during the year :—

H.M.S. *Heliotrope* in January.
H.M.S. *Durban* in January.
H.M.S. *Wistaria* in April.

H. J. PINK,
Acting Administrator.

St. Lucia,
28th June, 1930.

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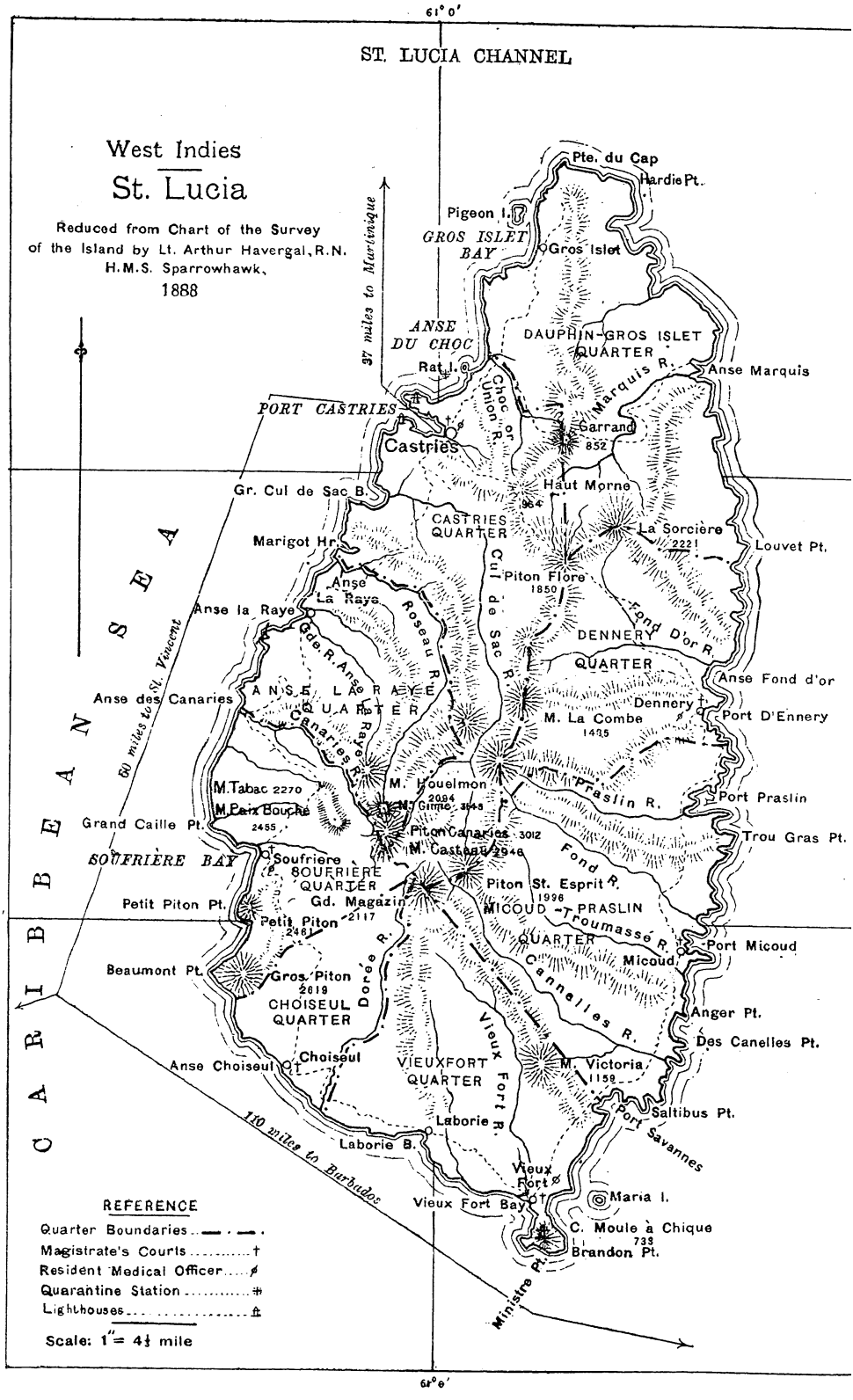

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BRITISH GUIANA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

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Geography and History.

The Colony of British Guiana, which, it is interesting to note, is the only British possession on the South American Continent, lies between the first and ninth degrees of North latitude and fifty-seventh and sixty-first degrees of West longitude, and has a seaboard of roughly 270 miles, extending from near the mouth of the Orinoco river on the west to the Corentyne river on the east. The Colony is bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south and south-west by Brazil, on the east by the Dutch colony of Surinam, and on the west by Venezuela, and is divided into the three counties of Essequebo, Demerara, and Berbice. It has an area of approximately 90,000 square miles, of which only 198 square miles along the coast and up the rivers are cultivated, and only 4,128 square miles have been alienated under firm title.

The climate is a naturally healthy one for the tropics. On the coastal region there are two wet and two dry seasons in the year. The long wet season usually commences about the middle of April

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and lasts until the middle of August. This is followed by the long dry season, which extends to the middle of November. From the middle of November to the end of January there is a short wet season, while a short dry season follows from the beginning of February to the middle of April. In the forest region of the interior the usual contrast between the wet and dry seasons is less marked than on the coast. In the savannah region in the far interior the rainfall is less than that registered in either of the other two. The mean temperature in the shade ranges in the coastal regions from 79° F. to 82° F., the mean maximum registering from 83° F. to 87° F., and the mean minimum from 74.5° F. to 76.5° F. Fresh sea-breezes blow steadily, almost without intermission in the day time, during the greater part of the year. During the months of January, February, and March, they continue both day and night, and make life pleasant for the European. The general direction of the wind is north-east, east-north-east, or east. Occasionally, however, during the wet months of the year, a land-breeze is experienced from the south-east, south, or south-west, and with this wind the heaviest falls of rain occur. The wind varies from " gentle " to " fresh " and gales are exceedingly rare. During 1929 the mean shade temperature as recorded at the Botanic Gardens, Georgetown, was 80.1° F., or 0.7° F. lower than that of the previous year, and 2.4° F. above that at the Penal Settlement, Mazaruni river. The absolute maximum was 90.0° F. and the absolute minimum 70° F. The total rainfall for the year was 71.62° inches. The mean rainfall in 1929 for the coastlands was 79.42 inches, as compared with 98.58 inches at the Penal Settlement, Mazaruni, and 100.86 inches at stations situated more than 15 miles from the coast.

The principal languages spoken in the Colony are English and different Indian languages.

The Colony was first partially settled between 1616 and 1621 by the Dutch West India Company, who erected a fort and depot at Fort Kyk-over-al in the present county of Essequibo. In 1624 a settlement was founded on the Berbice river by Van Peere, a Flushing merchant, under licence from the Company. The first English attempt at settlement was made by Captain Leigh on the O'apock river (now French Guiana) in 1604. The effort, though followed up by Robert Harcourt in 1613 and 1627, failed to establish a permanent settlement. Lord Willoughby, famous in the early history of Barbados, also turned his attention to Guiana and founded a settlement in Surinam in 1663, which was captured by the Dutch in 1667 and ceded to them at the Peace of Breda in exchange for New York. The Dutch retained their hold on the three colonies with more or less firmness, now yielding to England, now to France or Portugal, till 1796, when during the war of the French Revolution they were captured by a British fleet sailing from Barbados. The territory was restored to the Dutch in 1802,

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but in the following year was retaken by Great Britain, and finally ceded to that Power in 1814.

The Constitution, as it existed up to 1891, may be summed up very briefly. It consisted of a Governor, a Court of Policy, and a Combined Court. The functions of an Executive and Legislative Council and House of Assembly were performed by the Governor and Court of Policy, except as regards taxation and finance, which were dealt with by the Combined Court, composed of the Governor and Members of the Court of Policy together with six Financial Representatives. The Court of Policy made all laws and ordinances, except the annual Tax and Customs Duties Ordinances, which were passed by the Combined Court. Towards the end of the 18th century, when British Guiana still belonged to the Dutch, there were two sets of taxes and two separate treasuries or chests —these taxes were : the Capitation Tax, which, together with the import, produce, and tonnage dues, went into the Dutch West India Company's (now the King's) chest; and the Ongeld, an additional head tax, which belonged to the Colony chest. The abolition of slavery in 1834 rendered it necessary to alter the system of taxation to suit the new social conditions obtaining, and the King's taxes and the Colonial taxes were abolished and the ways and means necessary for carrying on the Government were raised by increasing the import duties. The two chests were merged into one—the revenue of the King's chest was surrendered to the Combined Court as a part of the ways and means in return for, and during the term of, a Civil List. In 1842, by an Order of Her Majesty in Council, it was declared that during the continuation of the Civil List the King's chest should continue to be abolished. The Civil List has continued to be renewed from time to time as necessary.

During 1891 an Act was passed, which came into force in 1892, effecting a considerable change in the Constitution. By this Act the administrative functions of the Court of Policy were transferred to an Executive Council, and the duties of the former became purely legislative. The Court of Policy then consisted of the Governor, seven official members and eight elected members, and together with six financial representatives formed the Combined Court.

A Parliamentary Commission was appointed in October, 1926, " to consider and report on the economic condition of the Colony, the causes which have hitherto retarded and the measures which could be taken to promote development, and any facts which they may consider to have a bearing on the above matters ", and in their report* they recommended that it was essential, both on the grounds of immediate financial exigencies and that of future development, that the existing Constitution should be altered so as to confer power upon the Governor to carry into effect measures which he and

* Cmd. 2841.

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the Secretary of State for the Colonies consider essential for the well-being of the Colony. On their recommendation a local commission was appointed to advise on the precise nature of the constitutional modification required to secure such control to the Government, and generally upon any other improvements such as those suggested by the Parliamentary Commission which might be effected in the Constitution. As a result of these reports an Act to make provision for the Government of the Colony of British Guiana was passed by Parliament in 1928, and by Proclamation issued by the Governor in Executive Council and published in the Official Gazette as provided by Article 3 of the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1928, the Court of Policy and Combined Court then subsisting were determined on the 18th July, 1928, and a Legislative Council substituted therefor.

The Legislative Council as now constituted consists of the Governor, two *ex officio* members, eight nominated official members, five nominated unofficial members, and fourteen elected members. It shall be dissolved not later than two years after its first constitution, and thereafter at the expiration of five years if it has not been dissolved earlier. A general election must be held within two months of the date of dissolution.

The Executive Council consists of the Governor, two *ex officio* members, four nominated official members, three nominated unofficial members, and two elected members, all of whom are members of the Legislative Council.

Currency.

Accounts are kept in dollars and cents. British sterling and United States gold coin are current and are legal tender.

On the 16th August, 1915, the Combined Court approved of the issue of Government currency notes of the face value of $1=4s. 2d. and $2=8s. 4d. The first notes were issued in January, 1917, and on the 31st December, 1929, there were notes in circulation to the face value of £104,166 13s. 4d.

Replacement of the earlier issues of Government currency notes in circulation by notes of a new and attractive design was commenced on 12th February, 1929, and proceeded throughout the year.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and the Royal Bank of Canada have establishments at Georgetown, with branches at New Amsterdam, Berbice. Both of these banks carry on savings bank business.

The first Government Savings Banks were established at Georgetown and at New Amsterdam in the year 1836, and the first Post Office Savings Banks in December, 1889. In November, 1910, the Combined Court passed a resolution approving of the amalgamation of these banks, and authorizing the transfer of the Government Savings Bank to the Post Office as from the 1st July, 1911.

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Savings Bank business is conducted at 42 post offices throughout the Colony.

On the 31st December, 1929, there were 34,857 depositors with a total of £342,553 13s. 2d. at credit in the Banks. The investments on the same date were £341,658 17s. 4d., from which an interest income of £16,406 17s. 0d. was received. The bank has a Depreciation of Investments Fund of £15,985 19s. 9d.

Weights and Measures.

Imperial Weights and Measures are in use in the Colony.

I.—GENERAL.

1. On 1st July, His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Gordon Guggisberg, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., left the Colony on leave of absence, and Mr. C. D. Douglas-Jones, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government for the remainder of the year.

2. A weekly air mail service between Miami and Dutch Guiana via the West Indian Islands, Cuba, Haiti, Porto Rico, etc., touching at Georgetown, was inaugurated on the 23rd September by Pan-American Airways Incorporated.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue.

3. The ordinary revenue for the year 1929 amounted to £1,070,240, falling short of the estimate by £75,600 and the ordinary revenue for the preceding year by £53,325. Including certain extraordinary transactions giving rise to abnormal receipts in 1929, the total revenue amounted to £1,252,322, exceeding the estimate by £104,101, and the revenue for the preceding year by £66,511.

Expenditure.

4. The total expenditure for the year amounted to £1,126,218 being £63,610 less than the estimate and £32,921 less than the expenditure for the previous year. The estimates for 1929 included extraordinary appropriations amounting to £10,723, the actual ordinary expenditure exclusive of these items being £1,115,199.

5. The revenue and expenditure for the last five years were as under :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925	1,095,574	1,126,394
1926	1,054,127	1,173,491
1927	1,068,865	1,148,028
1928	1,185,811	1,159,139
1929	1,252,322	1,126,218

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Assets and Liabilities.

6. The Balance Sheet of the Colony at the 31st December, 1928, showed an accumulated deficit of £156,038. Including ordinary and extraordinary items the actual revenue during the year exceeded the actual expenditure by £126,104. The deficit was accordingly reduced to £29,934 at 31st December, 1929, the total assets and liabilities at that date being £1,016,444 and £1,046,378 respectively.

Public Debt.

7. The Public Debt at 31st December, 1928, amounted to £2,618,424. During the year loans of £69,813 and £2,090,000—the former having been subscribed to in the preceding year—were issued locally and by the Crown Agents respectively, while redemptions to the amount of £8,046 were effected. The resulting loan indebtedness at the close of the year was therefore £4,770,191 against which liability there was an accumulated Sinking Fund of £533,170.

Particulars of Loan issued during 1929.

8. £69,813 5 per cent. Debentures at par were issued in the Colony on 1st January, 1929, for a term of 38 years with the option to the Government of redemption at any time after the expiration of ten years from the date of issue on 12 months' notice being given in the " Gazette " of the Colony. Interest payable 1st January and 1st July. The loan was raised to provide for the redemption of 6 per cent. Bonds of issues 5 to 9 and 11 under Ordinance 6 of 1916. A Sinking Fund sufficient to meet the redemption of the issue is being provided.

£2,000,000 5 per cent. Inscribed Stock at £98 per cent. was issued by the Crown Agents in July, 1929, for a term of 40 years with the option of redemption at par on or after the 1st August, 1949, on six months' notice being given by advertisement in *The London Gazette* and in *The Times* or by post to the then stock holders at their registered addresses. The Stock was issued under the provisions of the General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance of British Guiana No. 31 of 1913, and by Treasury Notice in the *London, Edinburgh,* and *Belfast Gazettes* added to the list of authorized Trustee Stocks. A Sinking Fund of not less than one pound per cent. per annum will be formed in the United Kingdom and the first half-yearly contribution thereto will be taken not later than the 1st February, 1933. Interest payable on 1st February and 1st August.

£90,000 5 per cent. Inscribed Stock additional and identical with the above issue was created by the Crown Agents in October, 1929, under the Public Purposes Loan Ordinance of 1929, to defray the expenses of issue of the above loan. The stock was placed on the

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market and obtained a price of £99 10s. Interest payable on the 1st February and 1st August.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

9. The sugar crop of the Colony for 1929 was 117,254 tons as compared with 100,414 tons, the average for the preceding ten years. The area reaped was 56,126 acres, the average yield of sugar being 2.09 tons per acre. The returns submitted by sugar plantations in the Colony show that in 1929, 57,247 acres were under sugar-cane.

10. The area devoted to the cultivation of rice was 63,441 acres, of which 10,452 acres yielded both spring and autumn crops. The total yield of padi was £72,096 tons, equivalent to about 43,257 tons of cleaned rice. 14,091 tons of rice were exported in 1929 as compared with 18,083 tons in 1928. Large areas of the front lands of the Colony pre-eminently suited for the cultivation of rice are not so occupied.

11. Coconuts are planted on 28,000 acres of land. The exports of nuts were 637,812. In addition 75,187 cwt. of copra and 20,862 gallons of coconut oil were exported. A great number of the nuts gathered were used locally for the manufacture of copra, coconut oil, or directly as food. There is a very wide area of lighter soils on the front coastlands suitable for planting with coconuts.

12. The acreage returned as being under coffee was 5,905 acres. The export of coffee amounted to 8,098 cwt., as compared with 8,212 cwt. in 1928. The area is capable of considerable expansion, notably in the North-West and Pomeroon Districts.

13. The area returned as being planted with cocoa was 1,438 acres.

14. The area devoted to the cultivation of limes during the year was 603 acres. In the year under review, 12,717 gallons of concentrated lime juice and 801 gallons of essential oil of limes were exported.

15. The export of rubber was 15 cwt., as compared with 143 cwt. in 1928.

16. The acreage under provision crops was 13,577 acres.

17. The number of cattle in the Colony, including 72,508 on the hinterland savannahs, was 153,639 in 1929, horses were returned at 3,702, sheep at 26,695, goats at 15,825, swine at 22,811, donkeys at 7,169, mules at 1,691. There are also 367 buffaloes, mostly used in the timber grants.

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18. The annual exports and values of the principal agricultural commodities during the last five years were :—

——	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Sugar—					
Tons...	97,728	84,659	109,616	114,687	100,449
£	1,413,696	1,260,470	1,830,747	1,692,639	1,238,289
Molasses—					
Gals....	1,345,243	2,017,862	2,677,457	2,873,468	2,536,623
£	20,922	21,551	30,322	34,225	29,417
Rum—					
Pf. Gals.	1,148,124	789,643	1,081,020	1,269,923	1,109,482
£	117,127	83,098	107,592	120,060	102,390
Rice—					
Tons...	6,918	2,914	11,497	18,083	14,091
£	109,159	45,447	150,806	232,114	182,585
Copra—					
Lb.	1,935,110	3,820,468	2,605,818	7,841,944	8,420,160
£	20,023	39,595	24,276	73,442	65,489
Balata—					
Lb.	904,784	597,401	753,037	647,566	599,897
£	113,132	74,675	81,773	53,635	48,260

Forestry.

19. Field work during the first part of 1929 comprised the detailed examination of the forests and topography of that portion of the North-West District bounded by Barima, Aruka, Aruau, and Yarikita rivers comprising 156 square miles. This work, on which the full staff of the Forest Department was engaged, was undertaken on behalf of the Colonization Committee. The results of this survey, though of a negative character are of great value, although it was previously known that the forests in this area are of poor quality and of little commercial value at the present time.

20. In the latter part of the year the valuation of that area lying in the triangle formed by the Mazaruni and Cuyuni rivers and known as the Kartabu Point area was carried out. Over all the area nothing worth mentioning was found except for two details. Between the Wallaba flats and the (more or less) Greenheart areas Wamara seemed to be a connecting link. The transition from Wallaba to Greenheart always meant Wamara in very fair quantity. As work progressed another interesting feature was observed. On slopes with an eastern aspect low bush was very prevalent. This low bush seldom or never occurred on a slope with a western aspect. On the whole the area carried mixed forest of comparatively poor commercial value. In addition, the valuation of the Tiger Creed-Supenaam Area, commenced during the latter part of 1928, was continued and little now remains to be done to complete

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the valuation of this area. A rapid reconnaissance of the lower part of the Cuyuni river, above the first falls, disclosed excellent stands of Greenheart, Mora and Crabwood.

21. A sample of charcoal made from the wood of Mora (*Dimorphandra mora*) was forwarded to the Imperial Institute for analysis and comparison with the Wallaba charcoal sent during 1928. The results show that Mora charcoal has a higher calorific value than any of the others tested.

22. The order from the Government Railway, Jamaica, for 10,000 line sleepers and 490 crossing timbers referred to in the 1928 report was completed, and a further order for 871 crossing timbers was executed during the year.

23. A large order for Greenheart piling for a sugar Company in Porto Rico was placed with and executed by a local firm.

24. During the year 250,612 cubic feet of timber for export was inspected, branded and certified by officers of the Forest Department, of which 230,433 cubic feet was Greenheart while the total timber exported amounted to 435,888 cubic feet. An interesting development is the increased demand by English buyers for sawn Greenheart the export of which this year amounted 21,091 cubic feet.

25. Further samples of 10 different woods were forwarded to the Imperial Institute for tests as to their suitability for use in the manufacture of paper pulp by the Kraft and Sulphite processes, the report of these experiments has however not yet been received.

26. The number of leases and licences for woodcutting purposes in existence at the end of the year was 105 over an area of 224,858 acres.

Mining.

27. The mineral production of British Guiana is at present confined to gold, diamonds, and bauxite. The records of gold production date back to 1884 and the aggregate amount produced from then to the end of 1929 was 2,681,638 ounces, valued at £9,782,668. The highest production in any one year was 138,528 ounces in 1893; but, since the rise of the diamond industry and consequent almost entire diversion of the interest of the diggers to the alluvial diamond workings, the output of gold has dwindled until only 7,294 ounces were produced in 1929; of this 3,852 ounces were won by dredging. With the exception of 69,430 ounces won by quartz-mining ventures, all of which are closed down, the entire production of gold has been obtained from alluvial deposits.

28. Diamonds were first discovered in 1890, but, though of good quality, failed to obtain a good market price until 1916, from which year production rose steadily to a peak production of 214,474 carats valued at £1,033,014 in 1923. World prices have gradually

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declined since then and the production for 1929 was 125,799 carats valued at £471,746. The aggregate production from 1890 to the end of that year was 1,659,026 carats valued at £6,932,940. The entire production has been obtained from alluvial workings mostly by individual workers, no pipes or fissure deposits having been found.

29. Valuable and extensive deposits of exceptionally high grade bauxite exist in easily accessible locations. Operations to develop part of these were commenced in 1914 by the Demerara Bauxite Company, an offshoot of the Aluminium Company of America. Plant and equipment to a value of about £1,000,000 have been erected and the aggregate output to the end of 1929 was 1,177,210 tons, the output during the year being 185,151 tons. This places British Guiana in the forefront of bauxite-producing countries. The British and Colonial Bauxite Company—an offshoot of the British Aluminium Company and connected British and Colonial interests—has taken up a large area, but active mining operations had not been commenced at the close of the year.

30. The annual exports of these minerals for the last five years were :—

——	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Gold—					
Oz.	6,974	5,434	5,607	4,264	5,837
£	27,494	20,471	20,713	15,864	20,945
Diamonds—					
Carats	188,207	145,097	180,678	132,966	128,115
£	845,268	687,698	753,112	524,758	474,492
Bauxite—					
Tons...	174,999	183,859	160,933	165,422	185,151
£	184,655	191,809	168,031	171,875	192,865

Fisheries.

31. There is room for considerable development in many directions, especially in deep-sea fishing.

A fair supply of sea-fish is generally kept in cold storage at an ice-manufacturing establishment in Georgetown. In early times, smoked or barbecued paku was obtained from the North-West District of the Colony in large quantities, but this is now rarely seen. Salt cod, herrings, and mackerel are imported in quantity, but no Colony fish are now cured. Fresh-water fish are obtainable in the markets, but the supply does not meet the demand.

32. The angler may enjoy good sport with tarpon (or cuffum) as well as with several other fish which are more agreeable to the palate. The river fishing in the interior is good.

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33. Fish glue from the gilbaker to the amount of 11,417 lb., valued at £284, was exported during the year.

34. Crustaceans, such as crabs and prawns, add much to the food supply in the country districts.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

35. The total value of the trade of British Guiana (including bullion and specie) during the year was as follows :—

	£
Imports	2,215,715
Exports	2,556,571
Total	£4,772,286

a decrease of £808,164 on the trade of the previous year.

The value of goods in transit to other countries transhipped direct in Colony ports was £127,968, as compared with £161,585 in 1928.

The value of imports (less re-exports and excluding bullion and specie) was £2,157,291, a decrease of nearly 10 per cent. on the imports of the previous year.

The total value of domestic produce shipped was £2,498,767, being a decrease of 17.5 per cent. on the exports of 1928. The main items responsible for this drop in value were sugar, diamonds, rice, and rum, which showed decreases of £454,350, £50,265, £49,529, and £17,669 respectively.

The exports of timber were 435,888 cubic feet valued at £59,831, showing a substantial increase over 1928 when exports were 134,030 cubic feet valued at £21,752.

The steady increase in the exports of bauxite continues. The shipment for the year under review reached 182,692 tons at a value of £190,424, being an increase in quantity of 15,071 tons and in value of £15,504, when compared with 1928.

There was an improvement in the export trade of gold, 5,837 ozs. to the value of £20,944 having been shipped. The exports in 1928 were 4,264 ozs. valued at £15,864.

The number of cattle exported was 966 valued at £5,120, being nearly double the quantity shipped in 1928 when the exports were 503 head valued at £2,070.

Copra to the extent of 3,759 tons valued at £65,490 was exported, and although the quantity shipped was greater than that of the previous year by 258 tons, yet there was a large decrease in value amounting to £7,953.

36. The United Kingdom accounted for nearly 44 per cent. of the total trade, or about 2 per cent. more than that of the previous year. The imports at 57 per cent. showed a small percentage

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increase on those of 1928, while the exports at 32 per cent. also improved to the extent of 1 per cent.

Canada's 28 per cent. of the total trade showed a decrease of 2 per cent. when compared with 1928, and the United States accounted for only 9 per cent. of trade with the Colony, being the same percentage as in the previous year.

The principal imports from the United Kingdom were :—

	£
Cotton piece goods	140,066
Machinery	121,007
Manures	69,684
Metals	66,905
Malt liquors	52,220
Edible oils	51,679
Manufactured tobacco	39,457

The main supplies from Canada were :—

	£
Flour	174,193
Lumber	21,915
Boots and shoes	16,800
Oats	15,966
Motor cars	14,769
Fresh vegetables	13,996

Pickled meat (£24,330) and leaf tobacco (£7,068) were the principal commodities imported from the United States of America.

37. The total value of domestic exports to the United Kingdom amounted to £819,116, of which sugar was responsible for £335,812; diamonds, £244,097; rum, £73,634; and balata, £43,967. Other exports to the Mother Country were copra (£33,168), gold (£20,945), and molasses (£18,606).

Canada was again the Colony's best market for her produce, the value of export trade with her being £927,677. The principal exports to the Dominion were sugar (£895,884), molasses (£2,097), and rum (£6,951). Of the sugar exported, 73 per cent. went to Canada, as compared with 67 per cent. in 1928.

The United States of America was again the destination of nearly all the bauxite exported, 163,023 tons valued at £169,935 having been shipped to that country. Molasses to the extent of 492,636 gallons valued at £5,132, also found a market in the United States.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

38. Regular steamship communication is maintained with the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States of America, the West Indies, and the Dutch and French Guianas. The principal lines calling here are the Harrison Direct Line, the Trinidad Line,

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the Royal Netherlands West India Mail Company, the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the Canadian National Steamships Company, the Ocean Dominion Steamship Corporation, the Aluminium Line, British Molasses Steamship Company, and the Dutch Government steamers from Surinam.

Railways.

39. There are two lines of single-track railway in the Colony, which were acquired by the Government from the late Demerara Railway Company. One of the lines runs from Georgetown along the east coast of Demerara for a distance of 60½ miles to Rosignol on the left bank of the Berbice river and diagonally opposite New Amsterdam. The other runs along the west coast of Demerara for a distance of 18½ miles, starting at Vreed-en-Hoop on the left bank of the Demerara river and ending at Parika, a point on the coast immediately opposite the island of Leguan in the estuary of the Essequebo river.

40. A third line of railway running from Wismar on the left bank of the Demerara river to Rockstone on the right bank of the Essequebo river, a distance of about 18¾ miles, owned and operated by Messrs. Sprostons, Ltd., a local company, was closed down during the year.

Roads.

41. Roads, with an aggregate length of 272 miles and a fair motoring surface, extend along the coastlands from Skeldon on the Corentyne river to Charity on the Pomeroon river, and also along the lower reaches of the principal rivers for short distances, but do not penetrate inland. Communication beyond these limits is, generally speaking, by water, but there are also roads and paths in the interior. These are as follows :—

In the North-West District, between Arakaka on the Barima river and Towakaima on the Barima river, a distance of 29 miles, with a branch line to Five Stars, a distance of 17 miles; and from the Barima river, opposite Morawhanna, to Waniana Creek, a distance of 11 miles, eight of which are suitable for motor traffic. The latter road passes over the Mabaruma hills, on which are situated the Government offices for the administration of the District, a public hospital, etc.

In the Potaro District, between Tumatumari and St. Mary, Konawaruk, 14¾ miles, and Potaro Landing and Minnehaha, 19½ miles, with connecting trail from the six-mile post on the former road to the ten-mile post on the latter (known as the Tiger Creek Line), a distance of 10½ miles, and a trail from the 1½ mile post on the Potaro North Fork Road to Kangaruma on the right bank of the River Potaro, a distance of 5½ miles.

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In the Essequebo District, between Bartica on the Essequebo river and Kaburi on the Mazaruni river, a distance of 78½ miles, and between Lower Camaria and Upper Camaria on the Cuyuni river, a distance of 3¾ miles. Bartica, at the junction of the Essequebo and Mazaruni rivers, is connected by path to Kaburi on the latter river, and from there trails extend to Potaro Landing on the Potaro river, a distance of 32 miles, and to Tiboku Falls, a distance of about 76 miles, on the Mazaruni river.

42. A cattle trail is being maintained by the Government between Takama on the Berbice river and Annai on the Rupununi river, a distance of 182 miles, with a branch line to Arakwa, a place approximately opposite Wismar on the Demerara river.

Government Steamer and other Inland Services.

43. The Colonial Transport Department (owned by Government) operates steamers on the following routes :—

Ferries across the Demerara, Berbice, and Essequebo rivers.

A steamer service from Georgetown to Morawhanna and Mabaruma, on the Barima and Aruka rivers, North-West District.

Georgetown to Adventure on the Essequebo Coast.

Georgetown to Bartica at the junction of the Essequebo, Mazaruni, and Cuyuni rivers.

Georgetown to Pickersgill and other stations on the upper reaches of the Pomeroon river.

Parika to Adventure and Bartica.

New Amsterdam, on the right bank of the Berbice river, to Paradise, 110 miles up that river.

Launch services are also run as follows :—

Charity on the Pomeroon river, up and down the river, and also to Acquero on the Moruka river.

New Amsterdam to Ilkuruwa, up the Canje Creek.

A service from Georgetown to Potaro *via* Bartica is being considered by the Department.

44.—Messrs. Sprostons, Limited, operate a steamship service between Georgetown, Wismar on the west bank, and Mackenzie on the east bank of the Demerara river. Sailing craft owned by this Company also run between Georgetown and New Amsterdam.

45. *Kaieteur Falls.*—Arrangements can be made for visiting the Kaieteur Falls. The journey is by way of the Essequebo river to Tumatumari and thence by launch to Potaro Landing, thence on foot by a path through the forest seven miles to Kangaruma in the Potaro river, and thence by boat to Tukeit, passing Amatuk waterfall and Waratuk cataract on the way. After leaving Tukeit there is a climb to the top of the Kaieteur.

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46. There are 1,586 motor-cars, 21 vans, 119 motor-buses, 154 motor-lorries, and 394 motor-cycles in use in the Colony. In recent years there has been an increase in the number of British cars imported.

Postal.

(Including Telephones, Telegraphs, and Wireless.)

47. The Postal Service embraces the whole of the coastlands and extends up the principal rivers. The General Post Office is situated in Georgetown, and there are 40 branch post offices at which all classes of postal work are transacted, including savings bank, money order, and postal order business. The postal agencies are 33 in number, at 22 of which postal orders may be obtained, and the number of travelling post offices is now 9, at 3 of which postal orders are obtainable. The Post Office also controls the inland telegraph and telephone systems. There are 46 telegraph offices, connected by 561 miles of wire. Up-to-date telephone systems are operated in Georgetown and New Amsterdam, to which there are 1,000 and 125 subscribers, respectively, both exchanges being in continuous service. During June, 1928, a Strowger automatic exchange was opened at Georgetown to which are connected 100 subscribers. In addition there are ten country subexchanges, two of which were converted in October, 1927, and one in December, 1928, to a semi-automatic continuous service. A separate police and railway service is operated.

48. The Georgetown Wireless Station (taken over from the Admiralty) is in communication with ships at sea and neighbouring points, and a direction-finding station is also maintained. In conjunction with the main station five stations have been established in the interior of the Colony.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

THE SUPREME COURT.

49. The work of the Supreme Court may be said to fall into the following divisions:—Civil, Criminal, Appellate, Matrimonial, Admiralty, Insolvency, Probate, Petitions, and Parate Execution cases.

Civil cases.—These may be said to constitute the most important branch of the work of the Court, as one or other of the three Judges of the Court sits to hear such cases almost continuously throughout the year except during the statutory vacation of the Court in the months of July and August each year. The jurisdiction in civil cases is exercised by any single one of the three Judges of the Court, an appeal from a final judgment of a Judge in cases of amounts exceeding $250 being provided at present (since 1921)

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to the West Indian Court of Appeal; while appeals in cases of amounts not exceeding $250 and in cases of certain kinds of interlocutory orders, go to a bench composed of the other two Judges of the Court, constituting the " Full Court " or " Appeal Court," as is hereinafter stated. In 1929 the Court sat by one or more of its Judges on 148 days (Saturdays not being included). A Judge of the Court holds what is commonly called the Bail Court : on Saturday for dealing with specially endorsed writs : on Monday for dealing with applications in actions, bankruptcy matters, etc. 396 civil cases were instituted during the year 1929, while 264 cases were disposed of, withdrawn, or abandoned, the numbers for the years 1927 and 1928 being :—

	Instituted.	*Disposed of.*
1927	420	426
1928	421	474

The Court usually sits in Georgetown, where cases from the less important counties of Berbice and Essequebo also are generally heard, but any civil cases required by the Rules of Court to be heard in the County of Berbice are, as a rule, taken by the Judge at the conclusion of the Criminal Sessions held in that County in February, June, and October each year; the rules provide that Essequebo actions shall be heard in Georgetown, so that the Court never sits to hear civil cases in that County.

Criminal cases.—Statutory provision is made for sittings of the Court in the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction, in every year in each of the three Counties of Demerara, Essequebo, and Berbice, as follows :—In Demerara in the months of January, April, June, and October; in Essequebo in February, May, and October; and in Berbice in February, June, and October. Power is given to the Governor to suspend or postpone any such sitting by proclamation, but this power has very seldom been exercised. The practice has been for two Judges to sit concurrently in Georgetown, the Chief Justice being, as a rule, in what is called " the First Court " and a Puisne Judge in " the second Court ". Only one Judge attends the sittings in Berbice and Essequebo, which are sometimes, but not correctly, referred to as "circuit" sittings. In 1929 the criminal cases for trial included 5 for murder, 6 for manslaughter, and 73 for other offences; these resulted in 1 conviction for murder, 2 for manslaughter, and 67 for other offences. The figures for the years 1927 and 1928 are as follows :—

1927	*Cases.*	*Convictions.*
Murder	11	7
Manslaughter	6	2
Other Offences	48	34
1928		
Murder	15	13
Manslaughter	3	1
Other Offences	85	65

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A case being stated by the Judge on a question of law arising in the trial, an appeal lies to the West Indian Court of Appeal.

Appellate cases.—The " Full Court " (i.e. a Bench composed of the three Judges or not less than two of them) of the Supreme Court sits as a rule every Friday to hear (1) appeals from single Judges and/or (2) appeals from Magistrates, the Court, speaking generally, having jurisdiction only over appeals from certain kinds of interlocutory orders of a single Judge and from final judgments of a single Judge in cases of amounts not exceeding $250 (in both instances the Judge's leave to appeal has to be obtained), while appeals from final judgments of a Judge in cases of amounts exceeding $250 go at present to the West Indian Court of Appeal. In 1929 the total number of appeals disposed of was 10, as compared with 31 in 1927, and 20 in 1928. Generally speaking, no further appeal from a decision of a Judge or Magistrate lies from the decision of the Full Court.

Matrimonial cases.—The jurisdiction in these cases, as in civil cases is exercised singly by each of the three Judges of the Court. In 1929 the Court dealt with 13 cases of this kind, as compared with 5 cases in 1927, and 15 in 1928.

Admiralty cases.—The jurisdiction in these cases also is exercised by each of the three Judges singly. Cases of this kind are not frequent. In 1929, as in 1927 and 1928, there was none.

Insolvency cases.—These are usually heard in Georgetown by a Judge in the Bail Court on Saturdays, without regard to whether they arise in Demerara, Berbice, or Essequebo. The Insolvency Ordinance, 1900 (No. 29) is based on the English Bankruptcy Act, 1883. In 1929 the Court dealt with 16 petitions for Receiving Orders, 13 being by creditors and 3 by the debtors themselves, the number of petitions in 1928 being 18 (7 by creditors and 11 by the debtors themselves), while in 1927 there were 13 petitions (7 by creditors and 6 by the debtors themselves). Three Administration Orders were made in 1929, as against six in 1928, and seven in 1927, and applications for discharge from insolvency were made and granted in those years as follows :—1929, two; 1928, three; 1927, five.

Probate cases.—Cases of actions for probate in Solemn form are not frequent. Probate in Common form is usually granted by an Order of a Judge (usually the Chief Justice) on an application paper submitted to him, accompanied by the will, the probate copy of the will, the executor's oath, and the estate duty papers, and a certificate by the Registrar (appended at the foot of the application paper) that the papers are in order for probate. In 1929 there were 238 such applications, as against 272 in 1928, and 334 in 1927.

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Letters of Administration for intestate estates were granted in 1929 as follows :—

By a Judge (usually the Chief Justice) of the Court (estates over $250)	82
By the Registrar (estates not exceeding $250) ...	36

The figures for the years 1927 and 1928 being as follows :—

	1927	1928
By a Judge	82	57
By the Registrar	34	39

Petitions.—These are required by the Rules of the Court to be addressed to, and are dealt with by, the Chief Justice. Some of them are of a formal nature, e.g., petitions for leave to levy on immovable property pursuant to a Magistrate's Court Judgment, and petitions for leave to sell a minor's property, but some are important and involve questions of law. In 1929 there were 181 petitions filed, and 171 Orders on petitions were made, including 25 Fiat Executio Orders, i.e., Orders for leave to levy on immovable property. In 1928 the figures were : 158 petitions filed, 146 Orders made, including 23 Fiat Executio Orders, while in 1927 there were 191 petitions filed, 163 Orders made, including 26 Fiat Executio Orders.

Parate Execution Proceedings.—These are relics of the Roman Dutch practice, in which the Judge without a trial makes a summary order for the recovery of debts due to the Colony, Town Taxes, Village Rates, etc., etc. A " Summation " calling on the debtor to pay within a certain time is the first step. On failure to pay within the time stated, the summation is laid before a Judge for his " fiat " which, being granted, the marshal levies on and later, after advertisement, sells the property of the debtor. Proceedings of this kind may be either *in personam* or *in rem*, the latter form being the more common. In 1929, fiats were granted as follows :—Town Taxes, 271; Village Rates, 1,656; other matters, 212; the figures for the years 1927 and 1928 being :—

	1927.	1928.
Town Taxes	252	184
Village Rates	1,343	1,146
Other Matters	86	97

50. The Chief Justice of the Colony functions as one of the Judges of the West Indian Court of Appeal, and in that capacity is required to attend sittings of that Court outside the Colony from time to time during each year. In 1929 the Chief Justice attended sittings of the Court outside the Colony at St. Vincent in January and at Trinidad, Antigua, and Barbados in August and September. In that year there was a sitting of the Court in this Colony on the 1st and 2nd days of July at which two appeals were disposed of, both being dismissed.

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Magistrates' Courts.

51. There are 41 Magistrates' Courts in the Colony. 34,828 cases were instituted in these Courts during the year, of which 16,742 were Civil and 18,086 Criminal. At the beginning of 1928 there were 160 Civil and 129 Criminal cases undisposed of, and at the close of the year there were 125 Civil and 115 Criminal cases pending.

Police.

52. The police force is an armed semi-military force employed for the prevention and detection of crime, the repression of internal disturbances and the defence of the Colony against external aggression.

53. Crimes reported to or known to the police during the year numbered 10,715. They comprised 18 homicides, 2,332 reports of other offences against the person, 127 cases of praedial larceny, 4,087 reports of other offences against property, and 4,151 reports of other crimes. The numbers of persons proceeded against in connection with the foregoing figures were : 19 for homicides, 729 for other offences against the person, 79 for praedial larceny, 1,342 for other offences against property, and 4,009 for other crimes.

54. No strikes or disturbances of any kind occurred throughout the year.

Prisons.

55. The prisons of the Colony comprise three main prisons and three small ones in remote and sparsely-populated districts. The two principal prisons are the Penal Settlement at the confluence of the Mazaruni and Cuyuni rivers, containing 254 ordinary cells and an Infirmary with one large ward for convicts, one for warders, and six observation cells; and the Georgetown Prison, containing 246 cells, 4 association wards, 2 hospital wards, and 2 rooms for debtors.

Owing to the reduction of the prison population and with a view to economy the Mazaruni Prison was practically closed down during the year, and the majority of the convicts were transferred to the Georgetown and New Amsterdam Prisons, which were declared Joint Prisons by Order-in-Council. A gang of 25 convicts and 4 Warders has been retained at this Penal Settlement to keep the buildings and surroundings in order.

56. The prison staffs together comprise 14 superior officers, including prison surgeons and chaplains, 56 subordinate officers and 3 matrons.

57. Prisoners are employed at various trades supplying the internal requirements of the prisons, on public works, and in the cutting of firewood, and their labour is also used on the prison farms. The English Mark System is in force and is applicable to all prisoners sentenced to 12 months and upwards. None of the prisons is on the complete separate system. All prisoners are

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worked in association, but the principle that each cell should contain one occupant only is strictly observed except in the case of patients in hospital or associated wards.

58. The number of prisoners committed to the different prisons during the year was : males, 1,318; females, 184; total, 1,502.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

59. During the year the sea defences were well maintained, and all main roads were kept in fair condition. Facilities for prospectors and other workers in the interior, such as the clearing of creeks, the making of bridle-paths and trails, and the maintenance of portages around the falls in the various rivers, were maintained.

60. All the approved schemes for the improvement of the drainage and irrigation of the coastal belt have been completed.

61. A total of 42 artesian wells of an average depth of 770 feet, of which 7 were for private estates, have been drilled, producing a good potable water. A number of these have been damaged by an element, corrosive to metal but otherwise harmless, recently shown to be present in the potable water, and the walls so affected are being reconditioned.

62. In connection with the City Improvement Schemes for Georgetown, the main drainage was completed and handed over to the Sewerage and Water Commissioners on the 6th July, 1929, and is working satisfactorily. A total of about 92 miles of house connections have already been laid, and it is hoped that the whole of the work will be completed shortly.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

63. The birth and death rates noted below have been calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the Colony at the 31st December, 1929, which was 309,676 or 155,996 males and 153,680 females.

64. 9,824 births—5,041 boys and 4,783 girls—were registered during the year. In 1928 the number was 8,702, 4,382 boys and 4,320 girls. The birth-rate was 31.7 per 1,000 of the population; that for 1928 was 28.3 and for 1927 32.6. The numbers and birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of each of the several races representing the community were as follows :—

Races.	*Births.*	*Birth-rate per thousand.*	
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	37	12.7	19.5
Europeans (Portuguese) ...	181	21.9	
East Indians	4,666	36.4	
Chinese	65	23.8	
Aborigines	211	24.3	
Blacks	3,419	27.8	
Mixed Races	1,240	34.9	

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Of the births registered 4,851 or 49.4 per cent. were legitimate, and 4,973 or 50.6 per cent. illegitimate.

65. The deaths registered were 7,281—3,892 males and 3,389 females. In the previous year the figures were 8,575—4,556 males and 4,019 females. The death rate was 23.5 per 1,000 of the population. In 1928 it was 27.9 and in 1927 26.0. The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of the various races was as follows :—

Races.		
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	10.0	18.3
Europeans (Portuguese)	21.2	
East Indians	24.8	
Chinese	15.8	
Aborigines	35.3	
Blacks	23.6	
Mixed Races	17.3	

Infantile mortality.—The number of children who died under one year of age was 1,434 or 146 per 1,000 births in 1929, as compared with 1,607, or 185 per 1,000 in 1928. The following table shows the proportion of deaths of the children under one year of age of each race to every 1,000 births of each such race for the year under review :—

Races.		
Europeans (other than Portuguese)	—	96
Europeans (Portuguese)	116	
East Indians	136	
Chinese	62	
Aborigines	194	
Blacks	169	
Mixed Races	123	

66. During the year the most prevalent disease was malaria and always has been.

There is also widespread helminthic infection, but these infections are not notifiable.

The total number of deaths registered as directly due to malaria was 1,198 against 1,563 for 1928, the death rate being 3.9 as against 5.1 per 1,000 persons in 1928.

There was a decrease in the number of notified cases of enteric fever, 200 cases being notified in 1929 as against 224 in 1928.

The number of cases of tuberculosis in 1929 was 327 as against 292 in 1928, the number of deaths being 276 and 301 respectively.

No cases of severe epidemic disease such as smallpox occurred during the year, but 50 cases of chickenpox and 26 of diphtheria were notified.

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IX.—EDUCATION.

Elementary Education.

67. During the school year 1928-1929, the enrolment of pupils in elementary schools was 42,749 and the average number in attendance 29,045. The figures for the previous year were 44,927 and 31,500 respectively. The grants to schools amounted to £73,144—£258 15s. being spent on refresher courses for teachers and pupil teachers of whom 1,455 were employed. In addition to the subjects usually included in the elementary school curriculum, classes in special subjects—woodwork and domestic subjects—were carried on at an expenditure of £543 15s. 9½d. All the elementary schools are aided denominational schools.

Higher Education.

68. A Teachers' Training Centre was established in Georgetown on 11th September, 1928. Thirty students—25 men and 5 women —were enrolled for a two years' course of instruction. These were selected on the result of a competitive examination in English, arithmetic, and a general paper in geography, hygiene, and nature study. The course of instruction includes English, mathematics, theory and practice of teaching, geography, history, hygiene, drawing, educational handwork, woodwork (men), domestic science (women), physical training, natural science (school gardening with some elementary biology and agriculture), music, speech training, and religious knowledge. Practical teaching in schools is done in addition to demonstration and criticism lessons. Individual study methods are followed whenever possible, emphasis is laid on all forms of practical work, and opportunity given to the students to specialize in certain subjects which they may choose.

69. Facilities for secondary education for boys are provided at one Government school—Queen's College—at St. Stanislaus' College (a Roman Catholic school), and at the Berbice High School for Boys, which is conducted by the Canadian Presbyterian Mission. The latter receives a Government grant of £312 10s. per annum. Secondary education for girls is provided at the Bishop's High School for Girls (Church of England), the Ursuline Convent (Roman Catholic), and the Berbice High School for Girls (Canadian Presbyterian Mission), which receive annual grants of £312 10s., £156 5s., and £156 5s. respectively, from public funds. There are also a number of other schools providing intermediate or secondary education which are conducted by individuals or denominations.

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During 1929 the following amounts were expended on secondary education :—

	£
Queen's College	4,496
Grants to aided secondary schools	1,013
Tuition fees of holders of Government scholarships	406
Maintenance allowances paid to holders of Government scholarships	460
	£6,375

The work of these schools is tested principally by the examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board, which are taken by the pupils of Queen's College, and of the Cambridge University Local Examinations Syndicate which are taken by the other schools. In 1929 the results were as follows :—

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE JOINT BOARD.

	Entered.	*Passed.*
Higher Certificate	6	6
School Certificate	14	11
Lower Certificate	17	9

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LOCAL EXAMINATIONS SYNDICATE.

	Entered.		*Passed.*	
	Boys.	*Girls.*	*Boys.*	*Girls.*
Higher Certificate	—	—	—	—
School Certificate	39	28	12	14
Junior Certificate	116	52	55	29
Preliminary	38	48	24	27

Assistance in obtaining higher education is afforded by various scholarships. The Government annually awards seven scholarships for boys and five for girls, to enable pupils from elementary schools to attend a recognized secondary school for four years or longer. Another Government Scholarship is awarded annually to the boy or girl taking first place in the Cambridge Local Preliminary Examination. Queen's College Scholarships are awarded annually to boys attending Queen's College who reach a certain standard in the Oxford and Cambridge School Certificate Examination. The Guiana Scholarship which is awarded annually on the results of the Higher Certificate examination of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board, and is of the total value of £900, affords a means whereby a student, whether boy or girl, may proceed to a university or institution of university rank in the British Empire. In addition to the above, certain scholarships have been provided by private benefactions. The Mitchell Foundation gives three scholarships in two years for boys and one annually for girls,

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all tenable for four years, on the results of the Cambridge Preliminary Local Examination. The Blair Bequest provides biennially a scholarship to a pupil under 14 years of age from an aided elementary school. A Trust Fund, created under the will of Pierre Louis de Saffon, a resident of the Colony who died over a century ago, undertakes the education and maintenance of a certain number of boys and girls, the number varying according to the revenue derived from the fund.

Industrial Education.

70. Industrial education in the Colony is provided for by the Industrial Training Ordinance No. 6 of 1910 and the Government Industrial School Ordinance No. 8 of 1907. A Board of Industrial Training, appointed under the first-named Ordinance, provides for the indenture of apprentices in different trades, such as engineering, building, printing, shipping, clothing, etc. Ordinance No. 8 of 1907 makes provision for the instruction and training of vagrant boys and youthful male offenders under the age of 16 years and until the age of 18.

71. The Onderneeming Industrial School, which was established under the latter Ordinance, has accommodation for 200 boys. The number of inmates on the 31st December, 1929, was 126, whilst the daily average during the year was 125.71. The actual net cost to the Colony per inmate per diem was 15½d. as against 14⅓d. for 1928. About 45 per cent. of the inmates have been trained in agriculture on the school farm, where coffee, cocoa, rubber, limes, and coconuts are grown and cured. Of the remainder, a number of boys are trained in the baking of bread, in carpentry, and in tailoring. Practical use is being made of the carpenter's shop, which carries out all minor repairs to the school buildings, and makes school furniture for the Education Department and for sale. The bakery supplies bread, not only for the school, but for Suddie Hospital and for sale to residents of the neighbourhood. A number of boys are also being trained in the school factory, where distilled oil of limes and concentrated lime juice are manufactured, cornmeal is ground, and rice hulled and cleaned. The school is run on purely educational and informative lines, and the boys are taught to look on the institution as a place of improvement and not of punishment.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

Lands.

72. The total area of the Colony is about 57,266,874 acres. Of this, 745,764 acres had been alienated at the end of 1929, principally along the coastal belt for a distance of two or three miles in from the coast, but partly up the tidal portions of the rivers. Most

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of this land was alienated during the Dutch occupation and very little is now sold outright, the present policy being to lease Crown Lands for periods up to 99 years with right of renewal for a further similar period rather than dispose of them outright. Small homesteads up to 10 acres are sold under conditional grants if desired, but the majority prefer to lease and only 208 acres were issued under grant in 1929. The area held under leases and licences of occupancy for long-time periods at the end of 1929 totalled 235,463 acres.

73. About 88 per cent. of the area of the Colony is forest covered, the total area in forest being estimated at 50,355,200 acres. Owing to the rivers being cataract-barred and the absence of railways, only about seven million acres of forest land can be regarded as commercially accessible. Of this, about 438,031 acres were held under lease and licence for woodcutting purposes at the end of 1929. Balata gum is collected over a very large area of the forest and forms a valuable export, and at the end of 1929 licences to collect balata covered about 10,848,000 acres.

74. Apart from the land artificially cleared for agriculture, the unforested area consists of " savannahs " (or open grass and scrub lands) much of which provides rough grazing of varying value. These are divided into the coastal or wet savannahs which mostly lie behind the agricultural estates on the coast and unless empoldered and drained are of little use for grazing in the wet seasons; the intermediate or " sand and scrub " savannahs mostly situated within tidal influence on the Berbice and Demerara rivers; and the " hinterland " savannahs lying beyond the Pakaraima sandstone plateau. These latter are joined to the Berbice and Demerara savannahs by a cattle trail about 120 miles long through the forest. The length of the trail between Takama and Annai is 180 miles, and it was constructed and is maintained by Government. At the end of 1929 about 978,009 acres of savannah land were held under grazing rights, mostly on a yearly title renewable each year if the terms have been complied with (unless required for more important purposes, which is a remote possibility in most cases) and about 1,458,934 acres were held under grazing leases for periods up to 99 years. There is little or no export trade in cattle at present, but the local market is plentifully supplied with beef and milk and a small export trade is done in hides.

Surveys.

75. All surveys for issue of title for Crown lands are carried out by Government. Agricultural tracts are surveyed precisely and connected up to other surveyed tracts wherever possible to enable them to be accurately shown on the cadastral maps. No framework survey of the Colony has yet been made and the work of connecting up tracts laid out for issue of title was neglected in years

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gone by with the result that there is much traverse work to be done up all the rivers before reliable plans can be drawn. This work is now being steadily if slowly carried on so far as funds will permit, but the absence of plans in the early period following the Dutch occupation has led to the unsatisfactory layout of holdings in many districts. The area precisely surveyed for issue of title in 1929 totalled 390 acres.

76. Areas taken up under woodcutting licences are surveyed by chain and compass and are connected by compass and pacing or time and compass surveys along the trails and creeks wherever practicable. The area surveyed for woodcutting purposes in 1929 totalled 39,367 acres.

Topographical, Geological and other Surveys.

77. Geological surveys in the mining areas have, for the present, been suspended. Two large surveys in connection with mining industries totalled 167,433 acres. Precise traverses in connection with the hydrographic survey of the Essequebo river, the East Demerara Water Supply Scheme, and along the Berbice river totalled 27½ miles and rapid reconnaissance surveys along the coast lands between Courantyne and Demerara rivers in connection with new maps which are being prepared aggregated 652 miles.

78. In connection with schemes for the settlement of colonists, a topographical and geological survey was carried out by officers of the Forestry and Lands and Mines Departments over an area on the Barima and Aruka rivers in the North-West District totalling 156 square miles; and a precise survey with levels was made by the Lands and Mines Department of 3,120 acres on the Essequebo coast, comprising Plns. Bush Lot, Anna Regina, Henrietta, and Richmond.

79. The hydrographic survey of the Essequebo Estuary which was being made for the Harbour Board under the direction of Captain C. M. Gibson, O.B.E., R.N. (retired) was extended down the left bank of Essequebo river to the southern end of Tiger Island and was completed during the year. The triangulation of this survey will be utilized as a part of the control framework of the Colony and to this end permanent marks to connect up future surveys were established by the Lands and Mines Department and their positions with reference to triangulations carefully fixed.

XI.—LABOUR.

80. Labour in the Colony may be classed under the heads plantation labour (sugar and rice), forest labour (gold and diamond fields, balata collecting, and wood-cutting), and labour in towns (porters, etc.). As regards plantation labour and labour for the rice fields, these are supplied mainly by East Indians, and the

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extension of these industries at the present time is somewhat hampered by a shortage of this class of labour. Labour for the forest industries and manual labour in the towns is confined mainly to negroes and those of negro descent, and the supply is sufficient for existing needs.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Legislation.

81. There were 48 public Ordinances and one private Ordinance passed during the year. The principal of these were :—

The Summary Conviction Offences Ordinance, 1929, (No. 2) relates to the suppression of the circulation of and traffic in obscene publications. An International Convention for the suppression of the circulation of and traffic in obscene publications was signed at Geneva on the 12th day of September, 1923. His Majesty was party to this Convention, but the signature thereto on behalf of the British Empire did not include any of the Colonies, overseas possessions, protectorates or territories under His Majesty's sovereignty or authority. It being considered desirable that this Colony should adhere to the convention, with this end in view, statutory effect is given to Articles 1 and 5 thereof, whereby it is agreed by the Parties thereto that certain acts shall be punishable offences and provision made for searching for, seizing, detaining and destroying obscene matters or things.

The Registration of United Kingdom Trade Marks Ordinance, 1929, (No. 3) provides for the registration in the Colony of trade marks registered in the United Kingdom.

The Registration of United Kingdom Designs Ordinance, 1929, (No. 4) provides for the registration in the Colony of designs registered in the United Kingdom.

The Legal Practitioners Regulation Ordinance, 1929, (No. 10). The Ordinance makes provision with respect to the discipline of legal practitioners. The importance of the Ordinance lies in the provision of proper machinery for examining into charges of misconduct by a Committee of professional men of which the Attorney-General is chairman. Where the Committee is of opinion that a *prima facie* case of misconduct is proved a report setting out their conclusions is made to the Judges of the Supreme Court. At a sitting of the Court the report is considered and such order is made as justice requires. The jurisdiction of the Court to deal with cases of professional misconduct has always existed, but hitherto there has not been any recognized procedure for investigating such cases. The expression " legal practitioner " in section 2 is employed because barristers-at-law are permitted to practise in this Colony in the same way as solicitors, and it is necessary that they should be subject to the same discipline as are solicitors elsewhere. The

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Ordinance is an adaptation to local conditions of a method which has proved successful in other Colonies.

The Public Purposes Loan Ordinance, 1929, (No. 11), authorizes the raising of a loan of £3,103,500 for certain public purposes, which loan has been raised under " The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Ordinance, 1913 ".

The Public Loan Amendment Ordinance, 1929, (No. 12) provides that no further loans shall be raised under the Public Loan Ordinance, 1916. In consequence of the raising of a loan under the Public Purposes Loan Ordinance, 1929, referred to above, it was decided that the borrowing powers under the Public Loan Ordinance, 1916, and the amending Ordinances should be cancelled.

The Income Tax Ordinance, 1929, (No. 17) imposes a tax upon income and provides the necessary machinery for the collection thereof. It introduces into the Colony a form of taxation which has been widely adopted throughout the Empire.

The Dangerous Drugs Ordinance, 1929, (No. 31) gives effect to the measures decided upon in the International Opium Convention signed at Geneva on the 19th February, 1925, and regulates the importation, exportation, cultivation, storage, disposal and use of opium, morphine, diacetylmorphine, cocaine, coca leaf, crude cocaine, ecognine, Indian hemp, datura, and similar dangerous drugs. The Ordinance repeals the Opium Ordinances, 1916 and 1926, and the local legislation relating to Indian hemp and datura, and embodies in one measure the provisions so repealed.

Visits to the Colony.

82. A Commission consisting of Lord Olivier, P.C., K.C.M.G., and Mr. D. M. Semple, with Mr. G. A. Jones of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, as Agricultural Adviser, who had been appointed by the Imperial Government to enquire into and report on the state of the sugar industry in the West Indies and British Guiana, arrived in the Colony on 16th November. They held six public sessions and visited a number of the estates and factories in the Colony. The Commission left on the 2nd December for Jamaica.

83. Shortly before the Sugar Commission's visit, Mr. C. E. Douglas, a representative of the Empire Marketing Board, arrived in the Colony and commenced an investigation of the rice industry.

84. Earlier in the year the Colony had received a visit from the Rev. C. F. Andrews, who came to investigate the conditions under which East Indians lived in the Colony. He expressed himself as satisfied generally with the position as he found it and stated that he felt practically assured that peasant proprietors in the United Provinces of India would be willing to come to British Guiana at their own expense if the good land and climate conditions were made known to them; provided that a reasonably cheap passage by a direct steamer were made available.

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85. A Scientific Expedition was despatched to the Colony by the Oxford University Exploration Club under the leadership of Major R. W. G. Hingston, M.C., with the object of making an ecological investigation of a typical area of tropical rain forest.

XIII.—GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

86. The following publications of the British Guiana Government are on sale at the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, Westminster, London, S.W.1, at the prices indicated :—

Handbook of the Colony	1*s.* each.
Agricultural Journal of British Guiana	6*d.* each.
"Rubber and Balata in British Guiana"	6*d.* each.
"Timbers of British Guiana"	5*s.* each.
Memorandum of terms on which Crown land can be bought	2*d.* each.
Annual Reports of :—	
Chief Colonization Officer	½*d.* per page with maximum charge of 1*s.* each.
Colonial Transport Department	
Colonial Treasurer	
Comptroller of Customs	
Commissioner of Lands and Mines	
Conservator of Forests	
Director of Education	
Director of Agriculture	
Director of Public Works	
Director of Widows' and Orphans' Fund...	
Local Government Board	
Official Receiver and Public Trustee	
Postmaster-General	
Registrar-General	
Harbour Board	
And any others likely to be of interest	
Copies of British Guiana Ordinances likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony.	2*d.* per page with maximum charge of 2*s.* per Ordinance.
Regulations passed under these Ordinances...	2*d.* per page with maximum charge of 2*s.*
Volumes of revised edition of Laws of British Guiana to 1921	6 guineas per set (half calf). 5 guineas per set (stiff paper).
Blue Book	£1.
Legislative Council papers likely to be of interest to persons outside the Colony.	½*d.* per page with maximum charge of 1*s.*
Copies of Railway tariffs and time tables	Free of charge.
Report of a Preliminary Survey of the Mazaruni and Puruni Diamond Fields, British Guiana (Part I), by Mr. H. J. C. Conolly.	15*s.* per copy (at the Crown Agents).

G. D. OWEN,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

31st *May*, 1930.

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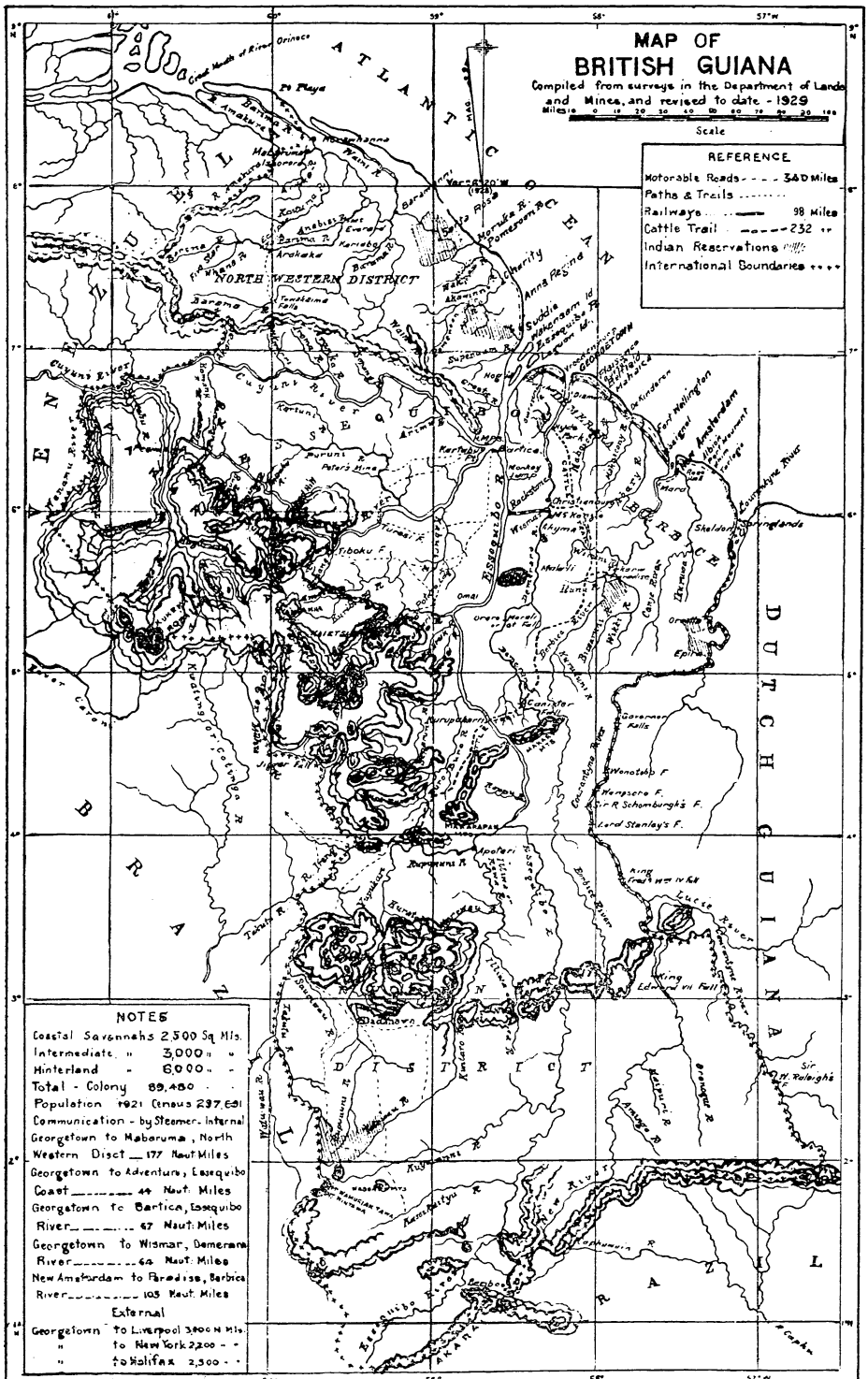
MAP OF
BRITISH GUIANA
Compiled from surveys in the Department of Lands and Mines, and revised to date - 1929
Miles 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
Scale
REFERENCE
Motorable Roads - - - - 340 Miles
Paths & Trails .....
Railways ..... 98 Miles
Cattle Trail - - - - - 232 "
Indian Reservations
International Boundaries + + + +
NOTES
Coastal Savannahs 2,500 Sq Mls.
Intermediate " 3,000 " "
Hinterland " 60,000 " "
Total - Colony 89,480 " "
Population 1921 Census 297,691
Communication - by Steamer - Internal
Georgetown to Mabaruma, North Western Disct 177 Naut: Miles
Georgetown to Adventure, Essequibo Coast 44 Naut: Miles
Georgetown to Bartica, Essequibo River 67 Naut: Miles
Georgetown to Wismar, Demerara River 60 Naut: Miles
New Amsterdam to Paradise, Berbice River 105 Naut: Miles
External
Georgetown to Liverpool 3800 N Mls.
" to New York 2200 " "
" to Halifax 2,300 " "
ATLANTIC OCEAN
NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT
ESSEQUIBO
DEMERARA
BERBICE
DUTCH GUIANA
BRAZIL
VENEZUELA
Great Mouth of River Orinoco
Pt Playa
Barima R.
Amakura R.
Waini R.
Mora Passage
Hog Island
Morawhanna
Mora Pt.
Pomeroon R.
Cherity
Anna Regina
Suddie
Wakenaam Id
Essequibo R.
GEORGETOWN
Fort William Frederick
Diamond
Fort Nassau
Fort Hollington
Abary R.
New Amsterdam
Fort Canje
Canje
Corentyne River
Skeldon
Springlands
Berbice R.
Mahaica R.
Mahaicony R.
Abary R.
Mara
Christianenburg
Mibikuri R.
Kuyuni River
Mazaruni River
Cuyuni River
Kamarang R.
Kaburi R.
Kurupung R.
Peter's Mine
Tumatumari
Potaro R.
Kaieteur Falls
Tukeit
Tiboku F.
Omai
Mahaica R.
Mahaicony R.
Mahaica Creek
Mahaicony Creek
Abary R.
Mara
Canje
Berbice R.
Skeldon
Springlands
Corentyne River
Orealla
Epira
Wenotshb F.
Wanapere F.
Arr R Schomburgk's F.
Lord Stanley's F.
Concordonia River

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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1930. Cmd. 3637. 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Agricultural Economics in the Empire. (E.M.B. 1.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

Tropical Agricultural Research in the Empire, with special reference to Cacao, Sugar Cane, Cotton and Palms. (E.M.B. 2.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 9*d.*).

Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d.* (7*d.*).

The Chemistry of Wine Making. A Report on Oenological Research. (E.M.B. 7.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Grass and Fodder Crop Conservation in Transportable Form. (E.M.B. 8.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Grown Sisal and its importance to the Cordage Manufacturer. (E.M.B. 10.) 6*d.* (8*d.*).

Viticultural Research. (E.M.B. 11.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report on Insect Infestation of Dried Fruit. (E.M.B. 12.) 1*s.* 0*d.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

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FIJI.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1929.

PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical.

The Colony of Fiji is situated in the Southern Pacific Ocean. The Fijian group, which lies between latitude 15° and 22° south and between longitude 177° west and 175° east, comprises about 250 islands, of which about 80 are inhabited. The largest island is Vitilevu, which covers 4,053 square miles, the next in size being Vanualevu (2,128 square miles), Taveuni (166 square miles), and Kadavu (165 square miles). The islands of Rotuma, a dependency of Fiji, lie between 12° and 15° south and 175° and 180° east. The total area of the Colony (including the islands of Rotuma) is 7,083 square miles, or nearly the size of Wales. Suva, the capital, is situated on the island of Vitilevu, and is distant 1,743 miles from Sydney, New South Wales, and 1,140 miles from Auckland, New Zealand.

The islands of Fiji owe their origin mainly to volcanic upheaval. There are, however, no active volcanoes in the Colony, although several of the high mountains, as for instance, Nabukelevu, on Kadavu, and the summit of the island of Taveuni, were formidable craters in past times. Hot springs are found in various localities through out the islands.

The highest altitude reached in Fiji is that of Mount Victoria (4,550 feet), which is situated at the north-eastern extremity of the main mountain system of Vitilevu; the next highest on this island being Mount Pickering (3,550 feet), Muanivatu (4,000 feet), Mount Evans (4,020 feet), and Korobasabasaga (3,960 feet). The highest peak on Vanualevu rises to 3,437 feet, and on Taveuni to 4,040 feet.

The climate is comparatively cool for the tropics, and there is no malaria.

Most of the islands of the Colony are practically surrounded by coral reefs. Between these reefs and the shore lies an extensive, if intricate, system of protected waterways, navigable by the smaller interinsular trading vessels, with a number of excellent deep-water anchorages.

Historical.

Abel Jansen Tasman, a Dutch navigator, is generally credited with the discovery of the Fiji Islands in the year 1643. There is no doubt that he did come unexpectedly upon a few islands in the northern part of the Group; but there are very strong reasons for

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believing that one or more of the old Spanish navigators were here before him. The actual discovery is at present under investigation by research students; in the meantime the matter must be left in a state of uncertainty. Tasman's experiences among the reefs in the north of the Archipelago were so unhappy that, after the publication of his journal, navigators appear to have avoided the Group for over 130 years. Captain Cook made a survey of the island of Vatoa and the neighbouring waters in 1774. Bligh and Captain Wilson made important discoveries at a later time, and D'Urville made a fairly comprehensive though somewhat inaccurate chart of the islands and a few of the harbours of the Archipelago in his two voyages in 1827 and 1838. Commander Wilkes, who was in charge of the United States Exploring Expedition which visited the Group in 1840, completed a more reliable chart of its islands, reefs, and harbours and published the results of his investigations a few years later. But, of necessity, there were many hidden dangers in those coral-strewn waters which could only be revealed later by men-of-war visiting the islands for survey purposes, and by traders plying between ports in different islands of the Group. Uncharted shoals are still found, and, where possible, surveyed by one of His Majesty's ships stationed in the Pacific.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth Fiji began to be visited by vessels from the East Indies, which came in search of sandalwood and bêche-de-mer for the Chinese market.

The inhabitants at that time, and indeed for many years afterwards, were regarded as ferocious savages, and in dealing with them traders had to exercise great caution. Several of the crews of these vessels, however, took up their residence on shore, and they may be regarded as having been the first white immigrants.

About the year 1808 there was wrecked on the reef off the island of Nairai the American brig *Eliza*, with 40,000 dollars from the River Plate. The greater part of the crew escaped, but two of them took passage in native canoes which happened at the time to be in the vicinity of the wreck. One landed at Bau and the other at Verata. The former, a Swede named Charles Savage, acquired great ascendancy in the kingdom of Bau, where he taught the natives the use of fire-arms, thus affording them a considerable advantage in inter-tribal warfare. Other foreigners, for a similar reason, soon acquired a welcome in the several states which were then struggling for supremacy. An Irishman named Conner attained in Rewa a similar position to that of Savage in Bau. Savage died in March, 1814, near the island of Vanualevu, where he carried on a war with the natives for the purpose of procuring a cargo of sandalwood for an English trading vessel, the *Hunter*, of Calcutta. Together with some of his crew, he was killed and eaten, his bones being converted into needles and distributed amongst the people as a memento of victory.

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The first missionaries to arrive in Fiji came from Tonga in October, 1835. They began their labours, at a time when the political state of Fiji was unknown, at Lakeba in the Lau (or Eastern) Group, which was a vassal state. By their attention to these lesser people they provoked the jealousy of the Chiefs of the neighbouring sovereign state of Cakaudrove; so that, later, when the missionaries extended their activities the Chiefs continued to oppose the spread of the new doctrine by all means in their power. Similarly, when the missionaries established themselves at Viwa, which lies close to Bau, and at Rewa, they experienced the same opposition. The whole influence of the Bauans, who, by their prowess in war, were then paramount, was exercised against the work of the mission, and it has been suggested that many atrocities were committed at Bau to prove to the missionaries operating from Viwa how little Bau was influenced by the religious change proceeding in other parts of the Group. Finally, in 1854, King Cakobau adopted Christianity, and heathenism was conquered. Cannibalism had for a long time played an important part in the ceremonials of the Fijian people; it was interwoven in the elements of society; and it was defeated only after long and hazardous missionary effort.

In 1858 the United States corvette *Vandalia* arrived in Levuka, and the Commander, Captain Sinclair, acting on behalf of his fellow-countrymen already settled in the Colony, preferred claims against Cakobau, as King of Fiji, amounting to 45,000 dollars. Cakobau induced Captain Sinclair to allow him 12 months in which to meet the demand. Interviews in respect of these claims between Cakobau and the British Consul led to an offer of the cession of the islands to Great Britain, on the condition that the American claims were paid by the British Government, for which payment, as a direct equivalent, certain land, "if required", was to be granted in fee simple, besides the general sovereignty of the whole Group. Subsequently, on the 14th December, 1859, the chiefs of Fiji "acknowledged, ratified, and renewed the offer of the cession of Fiji to Great Britain which had been made on the 12th October, 1858". The offer was declined by Her Britannic Majesty's Government in 1862.

About this time, the shortage in the world supplies of cotton, caused by the American Civil War, led to an influx of Europeans into Fiji for the purpose of cotton cultivation, and in June, 1871, the settlers endeavoured to establish a settled form of government with the principal Bauan Chief, Cakobau, as King of Fiji. A constitution was agreed upon and a parliament was elected, but it was not long before the parliament and the Government drifted into mutual hostility, and latterly the Ministry governed without the aid of a parliament.

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In both Australia and England the annexation of Fiji had been urged since 1869, and in August, 1873, the Earl of Kimberley commissioned Commodore Goodenough, commanding the squadron on the Australian Station, and Mr. E. L. Layard, then Her Majesty's Consul in Fiji, to investigate and report on the matter. The Commissioners, on the 21st of March, 1874, reported on the offer of the sovereignty of the islands from the chiefs, with the assent of the Europeans, but on certain terms which were not acceptable, and Sir Hercules Robinson, then Governor of New South Wales, was despatched to Fiji in September, 1874, to negotiate.

The Mission was completely successful, and the sovereignty of the islands was ceded to the Crown by Cakobau, the Chief of Bau, Maafu, who was the Chief of the Lau Confederacy, and the other principal chiefs, in a Deed of Cession dated the 10th of October, 1874. A Charter was shortly afterwards issued by Her Majesty Queen Victoria creating the islands a separate Colony and providing for their government as a Crown Colony.

Constitution.

The Constitution is regulated by Letters Patent dated the 9th February, 1929. The Governor is advised by an Executive Council consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and the Colonial Treasurer as *ex officio* members, three other official and two nominated unofficial members.

The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, thirteen nominated members, six European elected members, three native members, and three Indian elected members. The nominated members must be persons holding public office in the Colony. There is thus an official majority of one.

The European members are elected by persons of European descent, who are British subjects, and are possessed of a small property or income qualification.

The native members are selected by the Governor from a list submitted every three years by the Great Council of Native Chiefs.

The qualifications required of electors of the Indian members are that they must be British subjects, of Indian descent, and able to pass a simple test either in English or in one of the five main Indian languages spoken in the Colony; there is also a small property or income qualification.

The English Common Law and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England in the year 1875, when the Colony obtained a local legislature, extend to the Colony as far as local circumstances render such extension suitable, and are subject to modification by Colonial Ordinances. Certain other later Acts of the Imperial Parliament have been applied to the Colony by local Ordinances.

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Local Administration.

Under the Municipal Institutions Ordinance of 1909 the administration of the towns of Suva and Levuka is in the hands of Municipal Councils elected by the ratepayers. The Municipal Councils have jurisdiction over sanitation and public health, markets, slaughter-houses, traffic regulations, building construction, and the control of places and streets within the towns. Their revenues are mainly derived from Government grants, licences, and rates.

The Townships Ordinance, 1928, gives the Government power to declare any area, not being a town constituted under the Municipal Institutions Ordinance, 1909, to be a township. The Ordinance is administered by a Township Board, whose chief duty is to exercise control over the sanitary conditions of the township.

The Central Board of Health, which is composed of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor, administers the Public Health Ordinance of 1911 and is empowered to make regulations in regard to the carrying out of the Ordinance. The Colony is divided into urban and rural sanitary districts, in which local authorities, subject to the control of the Central Board of Health, administer the Public Health Ordinance in their respective districts.

In each of the country districts there is a Road Board, under the Chairmanship of the District Commissioner, who is responsible for the maintenance of the roads in that district. General control over the work and the expenditure of Road Boards is exercised by the Central Road Board, which consists of official and unofficial members appointed by the Governor.

The system of native local administration is referred to later under Section XII, Native Affairs.

Languages.

English is the ordinary official language of the Colony. From the many Fijian dialects that of Bau has been adopted as the official language. Bauan is understood by all and can be spoken by most Fijians. In Rotuma, a dependency of Fiji, with a population of over 2,000, an entirely different language is spoken, which contains words found in the languages of all the adjacent island groups, including Japanese. Among the Indians, who number 73,000, a form of Hindustani which pays little attention to grammar is most generally used, although Tamil, Telegu, Malayalam, and Canarese languages or dialects are also spoken by former immigrants from the Madras Province and their families. Hindustani is spoken by the majority of these as a second language, and it is probable that in the course of time a form of Hindustani will become the common language of the Indian community in Fiji. The Chinese population of over 1,400 speaks Cantonese.

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Currency.

The only coin in circulation in the Colony is British sterling which, with the Government currency notes issue, is the legal tender of the Colony.

The natives refuse to recognize copper coins, and in country stores threepence is usually the lowest charge. The number of pennies in circulation is consequently small.

Weights and Measures.

British weights and measures are standard in the Colony.

I.—GENERAL.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir Eyre Hutson, K.C.M.G., proceeded on leave, prior to retirement, on the 18th April, 1929. Mr. A. W. Seymour, V.D., Colonial Secretary, administered the Government until November. His Excellency Sir Murchison Fletcher, Kt., C.M.G., C.B.E., arrived in the Colony on the 21st November and assumed the administration of the Government on that date.

His Honour Sir A. K. Young, K.C., Chief Justice, left the Colony on leave, prior to retirement, on the 15th February. His successor, His Honour Captain Maxwell Anderson, C.B.E., K.C., R.N., arrived in the Colony on the 5th September.

The new Letters Patent providing for the government of the Colony came into force on the 1st May. For the first time in the history of the Colony the privilege of the franchise was extended to the Indian community, who were given the right to elect, on a communal electoral roll, three members to the Legislative Council.

The first elections under the new Letters Patent were held in September, and the new Council met on the 25th October. Early in the session the Indian elected members proposed the following motion :—

> That the Council recommends to His Excellency the Acting Governor that he be pleased to convey by telegraphic message to His Majesty's Government the view of this Council :—
>
> (*a*) that political rights and status granted to Indian settlers in this Colony on racial lines are not acceptable to them ; and
>
> (*b*) that Indians in Fiji should be granted common franchise along with other British subjects resident in the Colony.

The motion was opposed by the nominated members, the European elected members, and the Fijian members. The three Indian

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members thereupon resigned their seats. Fresh writs of election were issued, but no nominations were received, and the three seats remain vacant.

A list of the more important Ordinances passed during the year is given in Section XV.

The trade of the Colony for 1929 shows a slight decrease in imports, and a decrease in exports to the value of nearly a million pounds, the total trade falling from £4,184,420 to £3,244,607. The 1929 figure was, however, higher than that for either 1926 or 1927. The drop in the value of exports in 1929 as compared with 1928, which was a record year, is more than accounted for by the decrease in the quantity of sugar exported, the result of unusually dry weather conditions, and by the low prices obtained.

The proportion of trade with the United Kingdom is still increasing, the percentage of imports rising from 27.28 in 1928 to 28.50 in 1929.

More than twice the quantity of butter was exported during the year than during the previous year. The exports of copra were 5,000 tons higher than in 1928, but prices were consistently low, and the value fell short of the 1928 figure by over £3,000.

Agriculture is the only source of the Colony's wealth and is dealt with in detail under the appropriate head in this report. Sugar cane is the most valuable crop, with coconuts and bananas next in importance. Rice is grown extensively for home consumption, the bulk of the crop being milled at the Government Rice Mill. Pineapple canning is a young industry which promises to become of considerable importance, two pineapple companies are already operating in the Colony, and a third is conducting experiments with a view to beginning operations on an extensive scale. Dairying and stock-raising are industries which are being built up in districts not suited for sugar or copra cultivation, and are capable of considerable expansion.

Following the success of the campaign to control, by biological means, the spread of the coconut leaf moth, *Levuana iridescens*, in coconut plantations, the Agricultural Department has turned its attention to the noxious weed, *Clidemia hirta*, which infests large areas of land otherwise suitable for cultivation. Biological control by means of parasites is being attempted, and the Government Entomologist has introduced from Trinidad numbers of *Liothrips urichi*, which have been successfully liberated in infested areas. It is too early yet to determine whether the experiment will be successful.

Tourist traffic is still increasing, but is hampered by the lack of good road communications and of hotel or rest-house accommodation away from Suva. Since 1925 there has been an average annual

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increase in arrivals in the Colony of about 500 persons, the number of visitors spending two days or more in the Colony in 1929 being 4,430, a record figure. The majority of visitors come from Australia and New Zealand during the southern winter.

The Fiji Agricultural and Horticultural Show, held on two days in October, attracted over 2,000 entries, and was visited by over 5,000 people. The Show, which is subsidized by the Government, is now definitely established as an annual event of great interest and benefit to the Colony.

A severe hurricane passed through the Group on 11th and 12th December, causing serious damage to buildings and property on Vanua Levu and the outlying islands. The hurricane was followed by unprecedented floods, which caused considerable loss to property and live stock. Fortunately there was little loss of life, and comparatively little damage to shipping.

The estimated population of Fiji and Rotuma combined on the 31st December, 1929, was 180,005. Of this number 91,711 were Fijians and 73,121 were Indians, comprising 50.95 per cent. and 40.62 per cent. respectively of the total population. The remaining 8.43 per cent. of the population includes 4,726 Europeans, 2,266 Rotumans, 2,258 other Pacific islanders, and 1,464 Chinese.

These figures, compared with the 1921 Census Returns, show that the population has increased during the last eight years by 22,739, an aggregate rate of increase of 14.46 per cent. The following is a table analysing the estimated increase of population since the last Census taken in 1921 :—

Class of Population.	1921 *Census.*	*Estimated* 31/12/29.	*Increase.*	*Per cent.*
Europeans	3,878	4,726	848	21·87
Half-caste	2,781	3,281	500	17·98
Fijians	84,475	91,711	7,236	8·57
Rotumans	2,235	2,266	31	1·39
Other South Pacific Islanders...	1,564	2,258	694	44·37
Indians	60,634	73,121	12,487	20·59
Chinese	910	1,464	554	60·88
Others	789	1,178	389	49·30
Totals ...	157,266	180,005	22,739	14·46

It is noticeable that the increase in the Indian population is being steadily maintained. The population of Native Rotumans has, since the first census was taken in 1881, remained practically stationary. Rotuma lies well outside the established trade routes and consequently is little affected by migration.

The distribution of the population on the 31st December, 1929, was Fiji, 177,594; Rotuma 2,411. There were 23.93 persons to the square mile in Fiji and 172.21 to the square mile in Rotuma.

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The average birth rate per thousand of the total population for the year 1929 was 32.79, and the average death rate was 17.60. The following table shows the average birth and death rate per thousand for the years 1925 to 1929 :—

Class of Population.	*Birth Rate per* 1,000.					*Death Rate per* 1,000.				
	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
European...	16·68	18·16	24·78	17·42	19·88	9·08	9·32	9·60	7·62	8·46
Half-castes	29·65	31·91	23·08	32·56	35·96	7·33	12·69	7·37	9·39	9·44
Fijians ...	32·29	33·95	32·53	33·36	31·91	22·75	23·09	22·98	24·95	24·66
Indians ...	33·14	32·65	27·72	34·00	34·86	7·25	8·26	9·42	10·80	9·06
Rotumans	56·97	48·95	50·47	52·21	50·75	64·38	28·29	36·29	51·77	48·10

The following table shows the number of marriages registered during the last five years :—

Class of population.	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Europeans	28	38	34	47	46
Half-castes...	22	14	16	41	28
Fijians	857	708	760	906	973
Indians	174	195	254	276	879
Rotumans	23	37	28	11	27

A feature of this return is the very large increase in the number of Indian marriages during 1929. This number includes 184 Indian customary marriages registered under the Marriage (Amendment) Ordinance, 1928.

An interesting comparison of the population at the Census of 24th April, 1921, and of the estimated population at the end of 1929 is appended.

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Return of the Population, and of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

Class of Population.	Area in square miles.	Whites.		Coloured Population.		Total.		Aliens and Resident Strangers not included in preceding Columns.	Population to the Square Mile.	Persons employed in			Births. Number and Rate per 1,000.	Marriages.	Deaths. Number and Rate per 1,000.
		Males.	Females	Males.	Females.	Males	Females			Agriculture.	Manufactures and Industrial.	Professional and Commercial			
Return of Population as ascertained at the Census of 24th April, 1921.															
Europeans { Fiji ...	7,421	2,274	1,574	—	—	3,878		—	0·52	412	379	1,905	—	—	—
Europeans { Rotuma	14	23	7	—	—										
Half-castes { Fiji ...	—	—	—	1,425	1,304	2,781		—	0·37	144	395	583	—	—	—
Half-castes { Rotuma	—	—	—	29	23										
Fijians	—	—	—	44,022	40,453	84,475		—	11·37	2,285*	845*	253*	—	—	—
Indians	—	—	—	37,015	23,619	60,634		—	8·17	19,433	3,179	1,244	—	—	—
Polynesians	—	—	—	1,271	293	1,564		—	0·21	335	501	—	—	—	—
Rotumans	—	—	—	1,129	1,106	2,235		—	0·30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chinese	—	—	—	845	65	910		—	0·12	129	92	399	—	—	—
Others	—	—	—	431	358	789		—	0·10	—	9	6	—	—	—
Totals ...	7,435	2,297	1,581	86,167	67,221	157,266		—	21·16	22,738	5,400	4,390	—	—	—
Estimated Population at 31st December, 1929.															
													Number. *Rate.*		*Number.* *Rate*
Europeans { Fiji ...	—	2,526	2,176	—	—	4,702		Nil	·64	—	—	—	94—19·88	46	40—8·46
Europeans { Rotuma	—	13	11	—	—	24									
Half-castes { Fiji ...	—	—	—	1,673	1,571	3,244		Do.	·44	—	—	—	118—35·96	28	31—9·44
Half-castes { Rotuma	—	—	—	24	13	37									
Fijians	—	—	—	47,243	44,468	91,711		Do.	12·33	—	—	—	2,927—31·91	973	2,244—24·66
Polynesians	—	—	—	1,772	486	2,258		Do.	·30	—	—	—	47—20·81	6	57—25·24
Indians	—	—	—	43,859	29,262	73,121		Do.	9·83	—	—	—	2,549—34·86	879†	663—9·06
Rotumans (Rotuma)	—	—	—	1,111	1,155	2,266		Do.	161·86	—	—	—	115—50·75	27	109—48·10
Chinese	—	—	—	1,352	112	1,464		Do.	·20	—	—	—	28—19·12	—	6—4·09
Others ... { Fiji ...	—	—	—	708	386	1,094		Do.	·16	—	—	—	25—21·22	7	19—16·12
Others ... { Rotuma	—	—	—	60	24	84									
Totals ...	7,435	2,539	2,187	97,802	77,477	—	—	—	24·21	—	—	—	5,903—32·79	1,966	3,169—17·60
Grand Total	—	—	—	—	—	180,005	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Figures relate to Fijians living in Magisterial Districts apart from Native Villages.
† This includes 184 Indian Customary Marriages registered under Section 3 of Ordinance No. 27 of 1928.

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II.—FINANCE.

The progress of the Colony in the realm of finance is shown by the following figures :—

Year.	*Revenue.*	*Expenditure.*	*Assets.*	*Liabilities.*	*Excess of Liabilities over Assets.*	*Excess of Assets over Liabilities.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1925 ...	550,236	478,174	668,104	751,557	83,453	—
1926 ...	584,515	536,079	750,010	785,027	35,017	—
1927 ...	586,574	534,939	898,491	881,752	—	16,739
1928 ...	709,534	567,845	597,903	439,475	—	158,428
1929 ...	677,945	642,124	557,043	362,794	—	194,249

At the close of the year 1922 the Colony had an accumulated deficit on Revenue Account of £243,481, and at the close of 1929 an accumulated surplus of £194,249. From this, it will be seen that during the years mentioned the very satisfactory improvement in the Colony's position of £437,730 was effected. These figures are, however, exclusive of the Immigration Fund, which at the end of the year 1922 stood at £74,282, and at the end of 1929 at £108,829—an improvement in this case of £34,547.

An item in the Colony's Balance Sheet which appears both as an asset and a liability is the before-mentioned Immigration Fund of £108,829. Except for the fact that this sum is earmarked for a specific purpose, it is a free asset, which, added to the shown surplus of assets over liabilities of £194,249, makes the Colony's available accumulated funds on Revenue Account £303,078.

While the incidence of taxation has been considerably varied during the last seven or eight years, and placed upon a wider and more equitable basis, only a slight increase has been introduced, yet not only has the financial position been consolidated, and satisfactory reserves accumulated, but it has also been found possible largely to fortify and extend those Government services which must directly affect the welfare and prosperity of the Colony.

The currency in circulation consists of Government notes, and English coins of pre-war fineness. The position of the Currency Note Guarantee Fund is satisfactory, as will be seen from the following :—

	£
Liabilities :—	
Notes in circulation	441,583
Assets :—	
Gold reserve (sovereigns)	88,481
Securities (market price at 31st December, 1929)	399,975
Depreciation Fund Investments	35,616
	£524,072

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Surplus on Values at 31st December, 1929, £82,489.

The transactions of the Currency Commissioners for 1929 produced a net surplus of £15,418, as follows :—

	£	£
Interest on Securities		19,838
Expenses	630	
Statutory Provision for Depreciation Fund	3,790	
	——	4,420
Surplus		£15,418

The position of the Loan Debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1929, was as under :—

	£
Consolidated and Funding Loan	765,000
Public Purposes Loan	80,204
Total	£845,204

The loan of £765,000 was raised in London during the year 1928, the stock bearing interest at 5 per cent. and being issued at 101.

A further loan of £170,000 was authorized in 1929. It was arranged that it should be in the form of a direct loan to be provided by the Crown Agents for the Colonies. During the year £80,204 was made available for public purposes and the balance will be provided when required. This is a par loan bearing interest at 5 per cent.

Banks and Banking Facilities.

Two private banks are operating in the Colony—the Bank of New South Wales, with three establishments, and the Bank of New Zealand, with two. The paid-up capital of the former is £7,500,000, while that of the latter is £6,771,198. The amount of deposits held by the Bank of New South Wales is £1,031,407, and by the Bank of New Zealand, £340,051.

In addition, there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, during the year under review, the number of accounts increased from 6,918 to 9,024, while the amount of deposits made during the year decreased from £158,202 to £149,292. The total amount of deposits at the end of the year was £5,161 less than the amount on deposit at 31st December, 1928.

The amount at credit of depositors on 31st December, 1929, was £170,190, as against which were held :—

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	£	£
Securities (market price on 31st December, 1929) ...	172,182	
Cash in hand	926	
		173,108
Surplus		£2,918

The transactions of the Savings Bank for the year 1929 were as follows :—

	£	£
Interest on Investment		8,764
Interest credited to Depositors ...	5,410	
Salaries	1,370	
Expenses	121	
		6,901
Surplus		£1,863

The rate of interest paid to depositors is 3½ per cent. up to £500, and 2½ per cent. on deposits exceeding £500 up to a maximum of £1,000.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Weather conditions generally were favourable during the greater part of the year, although a severe storm in January caused some damage to the young cotton plants, and late rains with dull weather affected subsequent plantings. The cyclonic storm in December and the subsequent floods occasioned considerable damage to bananas and cotton in Vitilevu and coconuts in parts of Vanualevu, Taveuni and other islands. Breadfruit and other native food crops were seriously affected in parts of the Group.

Sugar Cane.

The output of the Colony's five mills, in 1929, was rather less than 90,000 tons, which was somewhat below normal. The reduction was mainly due to dry weather conditions which adversely affected the crop in the earlier stages of its growth. The cane crop escaped serious damage in the storm and floods in December but considerable losses accrued by damage to buildings, floating stock, and sugar awaiting shipment.

In common with other British Colonies which produce sugar, Fiji felt the severe depression which has existed in the world's markets for the past year, and without the preferential treatment granted to Empire sugar in the markets of Great Britain and Canada the position of the industry would have been serious.

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A representative of the Fiji sugar industry attended the sittings in the West Indies of the West Indian Sugar Commission over which Lord Olivier presided.

The policy of the sugar manufacturers in subdividing their estates into ten to twelve acre farms, which are leased to peasants, has been continued. The results obtained may be considered satisfactory, seeing that production has been maintained, but there is still scope for further activity in this direction as the agricultural population increases. At the present time 75 per cent. to 80 per cent. of the crop is produced by Indian farmers growing cane on land leased either from the native owners or the mill proprietors, and encouragement is also being given to Fijians to extend their cane growing operations.

The following table shows the exports of sugar for the past five years :—

1925	91,744 tons.
1926	56,991 tons.
1927	72,753 tons.
1928	120,683 tons.
1929	72,275 tons.

(Note : The exports for 1928 included a carry-over of 42,000 tons from 1927.)

Shipments in 1929 were divided as follows :—

Canada	45,020 tons.
United Kingdom	21,989 tons.
New Zealand	4,783 tons.
Other countries	483 tons.

Copra.

The quantity of copra exported during 1929 amounted to 33,226 tons, which constitutes a record for this product. The increase in the export of copra is largely due to the successful campaign of pest control and of improved cultural methods for native plantations actively pursued by the Coconut Committee and its staff. The major pest of coconuts, *Levuana iridescens*, is now definitely controlled, and the position in regard to scale (*Aspidiotus sp.*) is improved. The scientific staff of the Coconut Committee is now engaged on the control of the Spathe borer (*Tirathaba trichogramma*) and the Leaf Miner (*Promecotheca reicheii*).

Unfortunately the increased production of copra was counterbalanced by a decline in market values throughout the year.

Exports for the last five years have been :—

1925	24,133 tons.
1926	27,868 tons.
1927	26,560 tons.
1928	27,947 tons.
1929	33,226 tons.

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Bananas.

The exports of bananas during the past five years have been as follows :—

	Bunches.
1925	565,623
1926	564,397
1927	544,359
1928	521,003
1929	384,858

The Department of Agriculture is pursuing an active campaign directed to the improvement of existing native banana plantations and the establishment of new plantations. During the year 164 acres of old fields were cleared and 274 acres newly planted.

The Australian market still remains closed owing to the heavy import duty on fruit imposed by the Commonwealth Government in 1921.

Cotton.

Adverse weather conditions and two severe storms caused serious damage to the cotton crops. A total of 344,399 lb. of seed cotton was purchased at the two ginneries, and 279 bales of 350 lb. each of lint were pressed.

Production of cotton since the revival of the industry has been :—

	Bales of Approx. 350 lb.
1923	101
1924	180
1925	136
1926	919
1927	404
1928	124
1929	279

Seed selection and multiplication have been continued at the Cotton Experimental Station, and ratooning experiments with the object of comparing fields from annual and ratoon plants were undertaken. The work on the cotton station was hampered by the storms and floods, but, in spite of set-backs, valuable results were obtained.

The supply of a suitable type of cotton which will replace Sea-island and yield good returns under the comparatively humid conditions of Fiji appears to be in sight.

Dairying.

This industry continues to progress and may now be regarded as firmly established, although much remains to be done to improve its economic position. The local demand is now fully met by the three companies operating, and a small surplus is exported. The output of butter is increasing steadily, and export markets are being explored. Increased production, and reduction of costs of production by pasture improvement, herd testing,

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and selection on a butter-fat basis, will contribute to the prosperity of those engaged in dairying.

Production for the past five years has been :—	*Lb. of Butter.*
1925	168,844
1926	247,724
1927	295,677
1928	307,989
1929	392,214

Exports have amounted to :—	*Lb. of Butter.*
1925	23,856
1926	58,800
1927	54,208
1928	34,048
1929	79,968

Pineapple Canning.

During the year the two pineapple companies erected factories and canned the limited quantity of fruit available. The areas under pineapple cultivation adjacent to the canneries are being rapidly extended, and considerably increased quantities of fruit will be available for the next canning season. The quality of the canned fruit is reported as being very high.

Representatives of the Hawaiian Pineapple Co. arrived during the year, and experimental operations on the two large areas over which the Company holds options were undertaken. All the plants available have been used in planting up a number of small areas, the object being to test each class of soil.

128,210 lb. of canned pines were exported during the year.

Rice.

A large quantity of paddy was produced during the year, and the purchases made by the Government Rice Mill, totalling 1,461 tons, constitute a record. The Colony is not yet self-supporting, and large quantities of rice have to be imported to meet the demand.

In addition to the Government Rice Mill, there are a number of small mills operating in the Colony, and the Indian growers prepare large quantities for sale in primitive hand mills. It is not possible to state the total production of paddy in the Colony or the amount of rice consumed.

Cattle.

The number of cattle in the Colony is estimated to be about 70,000. As a result of the increasing success of the dairying industry, and the establishment of meat canning works, the live stock industry is showing progress. Numbers of pure bred bulls are being imported and local breeders of pure bred stock, particularly of the dairy breeds, are having less trouble in disposing of their

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stock. The Government assists stock breeders by paying a sum of £7 per head on all pure bred stock imported, subject to certain conditions. Cattle are run on most of the coconut plantations.

Meat Cannery.

The meat cannery erected in 1928 has continued operations, and its products are finding a ready sale, locally and in the adjoining groups. The output of the cannery was 128,628 lb., 32,818 lb. being exported.

Mining.

Mining is still confined to prospecting operations, and no payable deposit of any precious metal, mineral or mineral oil has yet been found. Thirty-two Prospecting Licences were in force at the end of the year.

Regulations under the Oil Mines Ordinance, 1915, were in process of consideration during the year. No Oil Prospecting Licences have been issued.

Forestry.

Most of the forest lands in the Colony are owned by the natives, who may make contracts for timber cutting rights, subject to the approval of the Government, under the provisions of the Forest Ordinance, 1913. The estimated quantity of local timber milled during 1929 was 2,500,000 super. feet, of which only 7,105 super. feet were exported. The question of the appointment of a trained Forestry Officer, and a small staff, to initiate and organise a Forestry Service is under consideration by the Government, and in the meantime the approval of new timber cutting licences has been suspended.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total trade of the Colony in 1929 amounted to £3,244,607, of which the value of imports was £1,468,609 and of exports £1,775,998. The value of imports in 1929 was less than that of 1928 by £14,560, while the value of exports was less than that of 1928 by £925,253. In 1928 the value of exports exceeded the value of imports by £1,218,082, and in 1929 the balance of trade in favour of the Colony amounted to £307,389.

The following figures show the trade of the Colony for the last five years :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1925	1,271,135	2,156,257	3,427,392
1926	1,480,945	1,740,427	3,221,372
1927	1,223,303	1,997,374	3,220,677
1928	1,483,169	2,701,251	4,184,420
1929	1,468,609	1,775,998	3,244,607

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Imports.

During the period the value of imports from the principal countries was as follows :—

Country.	1925 £	1926 £	1927 £	1928 £	1929 £
United Kingdom ...	332,080	444,047	316,824	404,718	418,570
Australia	576,260	607,171	528,740	621,396	543,963
Canada	42,128	59,633	51,105	70,262	84,822
India	25,423	48,161	45,253	44,613	69,222
New Zealand	117,413	142,225	124,775	140,697	140,418
Japan	13,314	30,067	13,454	28,811	23,576
United States	143,089	123,574	122,470	131,994	121,441
Dutch East Indies ...	—	—	—	—	20,746

The preceding figures show that during the years mentioned the proportion of total import trade done with the several countries was as under :—

Country.	1925 Per cent.	1926 Per cent.	1927 Per cent.	1928 Per cent.	1929 Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	26·12	29·99	25·90	27·28	28·50
Australia	45·33	41·00	43·22	41·90	37·04
Canada	3·30	4·03	4·18	4·19	5·77
India	2·00	3·25	3·70	3·00	4·03
New Zealand	9·24	9·60	10·20	9·48	9·56
Japan	1·05	2·03	1·09	1·94	1·60
United States	11·26	8·34	10·02	8·90	8·20
Dutch East Indies ...	—	—	—	—	1·41

The United Kingdom is the main source of our general imports.

These cover practically every class of goods and include sugar machinery, steam and oil engines, railway track, canning machinery, steel and metal bars and sheets, paints and oils, cement, hardware, enamelled ware, cutlery, clothing, piece goods, preserves, etc., but no trade is done in power or illuminating oils nor foodstuffs other than a small quantity of canned goods.

The value of imports from the United Kingdom rose from £404,718 in 1928 to £418,570 in 1929. The proportion of import trade with the United Kingdom was 28.50 per cent. in 1929 and the average for the last five years was 27.56 per cent.

The main import trade with Australia and New Zealand is in foodstuffs and coal, the balance being made up mostly of goods re-exported, and the imports from Canada are represented chiefly by canned fish, motor cars, tyres, and timber.

The imports from the United States of America consist mainly of lubricating, illuminating, and power oils, and items of general hardware, those from Japan being chiefly cheap cotton goods.

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Exports.

The following Return shows the principal domestic exports from the Colony during the last five years :—

	1925		1926		1927		1928		1929	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£		£		£
Sugar ... ... Tons	91,744	1,371,267	56,991	808,195	72,752	1,125,215	120,683	1,827,095	72,275	881,263
Copra ... ... Tons	24,133	497,713	27,868	573,475	26,560	534,416	27,947	567,254	33,226	563,978
Molasses ... ... Tons	8,283	8,283	7,374	7,374	11,181	11,181	14,599	14,599	9,845	9,845
Bananas ... Bunches	565,623	132,491	564,397	138,040	544,359	157,819	521,003	147,781	384,858	107,280
Rubber ... ... lb.	145,213	16,116	233,990	23,581	221,238	15,276	94,661	4,704	6,855	224
Gum ... ... cwt.	980	1,504	1,511	2,678	1,145	1,707	865	1,212	2,533	3,548
Shell, turtle ... lb.	2,412	3,179	3,385	4,538	1,278	1,382	1,965½	2,461	1,908½	2,774
Shell, trocas ... tons	567	35,054	378	30,540	269	16,355	232	13,693	192	11,476
Bêche de mer ... cwt.	671	3,105	886	3,909	1,412	6,496	601	3,361	1,049	6,044
Biscuits ... ... lb.	482,146	10,429	453,397	9,095	360,387	9,334	438,211	11,306	373,793	9,507
Butter ... ... cwt.	213	1,881	525	3,616	484	3,615	303½	2,269	714	5,747
Cotton ... ... lb.	7,612	571	190,243	17,138	249,355	17,593	75,366	5,339	49,115	3,348
Oil, coconut ... tons	132	5,026	91½	4,387	79	3,357	101½	4,421	96	4,038
Fruit, other fresh	—	6,041	—	6,579	—	5,536	—	1,256	—	2,644
Vegetables ... cwt.	4,845	3,171	10,509	4,958	7,228	3,717	9,147	6,169	11,108	7,444
Pines, Canned ... lb.	—	—	—	—	145,824	1,801	245,799	4,249	128,210	2,276

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As will be seen from the preceding table, the main exports of the Colony are sugar, copra, and bananas.

The production of copra is steadily increasing. The value of the copra exported during 1929 was £563,978, representing a tonnage of 33,226 tons, of which 7,688 tons were shipped to the United Kingdom, 11,136 tons to Continental ports and 14,402 tons to the United States of America.

Of the 72,275 tons of sugar exported in 1929, valued at £881,263, 4,783 tons were exported to New Zealand, 45,020 tons to Canada, 21,989 tons to United Kingdom, 432 tons to Australia, and 51 tons to other Pacific Islands.

The banana industry is the one most suited to the natives, and practically the whole of the bananas exported were grown by natives. New Zealand is our only market at present, but it is thought possible that, with improved methods of planting and packing, entry may again be made into the markets of the Commonwealth of Australia, from which Fiji bananas, on account of the heavy import duty, have been practically excluded for many years. The quantity shipped in 1929 was 384,858 bunches, valued at £107,280, representing a decrease of 136,145 bunches as compared with 1928.

Of the other items appearing in the above list, those of particular interest are rubber, cotton, butter and canned pines. These are comparatively new industries. A considerable falling off in rubber exports occurred in 1929, due to the low market value in the United Kingdom. Only 6,855 lb. were exported, whereas 94,661 lb. were exported in 1928. 6,295 lb. were shipped to United States of America and 560 lb. to Japan.

The whole of the cotton exported was shipped to the United Kingdom.

The quantity of butter exported in 1929 was 714 cwt. of a value of £5,747, the 1928 figure being exceeded by 411 cwt. 111 cwt. were shipped to the United Kingdom, 180 cwt. to Canada, 156 cwt. to New Zealand, 10 cwt. to Samoa, 63 cwt. to Tonga, and 194 cwt. to Hawaii.

The quantity of canned pines exported in 1929 was 128,210 lb., valued at £2,276. Of this quantity New Zealand took 118,954 lb., Canada 7,621 lb., other British possessions 1,497 lb., and foreign countries 138 lb. The quantity exported in 1928 was 245,799 lb. valued at £4,249. It is anticipated that the production in 1930 will far exceed that of previous years.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Steamers of the Canadian-Australasian Royal Mail Line call at Suva once every four weeks on their voyages between Sydney (Australia) and Vancouver (Canada) and vice versa. These steamers also call at Auckland (New Zealand) and Honolulu

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(Hawaii). The Australasian United Steam Navigation Company, Limited, provides a regular steamer between Suva-Lautoka and Sydney once every three weeks, and the Union Steam Ship Company, Limited, provides a regular steamer between Auckland (New Zealand), Suva, Tonga, and Samoa once every four weeks. The Matson Navigation Company's steamers call at Suva once every three weeks on their voyages between San Francisco and Sydney and vice versa. Inter-island communication is provided by a steamer owned by Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, the Government yacht *Pioneer*, several small steamers owned by the Fiji Shipping Company, Limited, and by a number of auxiliary vessels and cutters.

There is now regular communication between the United Kingdom and Fiji direct, via Panama. Vessels trading to New Zealand make calls at Suva every two months, and the service is being increased in 1930 to calls every six weeks.

A mail subsidy of £5,000 per annum is paid to the Canadian-Australasian Royal Mail Line, a condition of the contract being that the vessels remain in port at Suva for six hours of daylight. A subsidy of £1,300 per annum is paid to the Fiji Shipping Company, Limited, for a steamer service between Suva and Labasa via coastal ports on Vanualevu. A subsidy of £7,500 per annum is paid to Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Limited, for the inter-insular steamer provided by that Company, which calls regularly at Taveuni and at a number of outlying islands and copra-producing centres.

The principal route for English mails is via Vancouver by the Royal Mail Line, and via San Francisco by the Matson Navigation Company, the average time of transit being 28-30 days. In addition to the regular steamers, mails for New Zealand and Australia are despatched whenever opportunity offers, the time of transit to Sydney direct being 5 to 6 days and to Auckland 4 days.

The towns of Suva and Levuka situated 54 miles apart and on different islands are connected by a telephone line, 11½ miles of which is submarine cable. The main island of Vitilevu is intersected by a telephone line between Suva and Lautoka passing through Nausori, Vunidawa, Nadarivatu, and Ba. The total length of the line is 125 miles. The section Nausori to Ba is the joint property of the Government, the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, and the Union Steam Ship Company, Limited, of New Zealand. Certain hours during each day are allotted for Government and public use. The Ba-Lautoka section which belongs to the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, is also available for Government and public use during certain hours daily.

Government telephone systems are established in the towns of Suva and Levuka and in the districts of Nausori, Navua, Savusavu, Taveuni, and Ra. There is also a Government telephone line

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between Suva and Navua. The Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, have private systems at and between Ba, Lautoka, Nadi, and Sigatoka, and also at Labasa on Vanualevu.

There are wireless stations at Suva, Labasa, Savu, and Taveuni for inter-insular communication. Suva Radio also communicates with Sydney, Western Pacific stations, and Honolulu.

The Imperial and International Communications, Limited, have an office in Suva, and direct cable communication is provided between Fiji and Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

The road system of the Colony consists of 413 miles of motorable roads, of which 310 miles are surfaced and are motorable in all weathers, while the other 103 miles are only motorable in fine weather. In addition, there are 31 miles of unmotorable earth roads, and 1,627 miles of bridle tracks, giving a total mileage 2,071.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

The administration of justice throughout the Colony is provided for by the constitution of the Supreme Court and various district Courts of Summary Jurisdiction—Ordinance No. 4 of 1875 declares the Supreme Court to be a Court of Record and Supreme Court of Judicature in the Colony.

It consists of a Judge, called the Chief Justice, appointed from time to time by Letters Patent and holding office during His Majesty's pleasure. There is a Registrar, and a staff of assistants.

Under Ordinance No. 4 of 1875, provision is also made for the appointment of a Sheriff whose duty it is to execute all process of the Supreme Court and to act as Marshal of the Supreme Court in its Admiralty jurisdiction. The Sheriff is assisted in his work by Deputy Sheriffs in the country districts, the duty being performed by the various District Commissioners.

The same Ordinance contains powers for the admission by the Chief Justice of barristers and solicitors to practise in the Colony. The terms of these admissions are further regulated by Rules of the Supreme Court, dated the 14th May, 1883. Persons so admitted are deemed to be officers of the Supreme Court.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is defined by sections 28, 29, and 30 of the Ordinance. By these sections it is enacted that the Supreme Court shall within the Colony have the same jurisdiction as that which His Majesty's High Court of Justice has in England, and it is thereunder constituted a Court of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery Assize and Nisi Prius, with like powers and jurisdiction as such Court has in England.

It is a Court of Equity and has within the Colony the same jurisdiction as the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, and the powers and authorities of the Lord Chancellor of England. It is further a Court of Probate and a Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, and under an Order in Council, dated the 10th

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March, 1894, Rules providing for the Admiralty jurisdiction of the Court were also established.

In addition to the Local Ordinances, the Common Law, the Rules of Equity, and the Statutes of general application which were in force in England on the 2nd January, 1875, are in force in the Colony, but only so far as the circumstances of the Colony and its inhabitants permit, and this provision applies to all Imperial laws extended to the Colony.

During the year there are four Criminal Sessions of the Court sitting as the Central Criminal Court. These Sessions are held at Suva in April, July, September, and December. The Court also goes on Circuit to Lautoka in February, June and October each year to obviate the expense and inconvenience of bringing into Suva the accused and witnesses from some of the outlying districts.

The Criminal Procedure of the Supreme Court is laid down by Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, by which it is directed that trials shall be either by a jury of seven or by the Chief Justice sitting with assessors. When the accused or the person against whom the crime has been committed is a native of the Colony, or a Polynesian, or native of India or China, or any Pacific Island, the trial takes place before the Chief Justice with the aid of assessors in lieu of a Jury, unless the Chief Justice shall for special reasons think fit otherwise to order. It is provided that the opinion of each assessor shall be given orally and recorded in writing, but the decision shall be vested exclusively in the Judge. In Jury cases the members of the Jury are required in the first instance to give a unanimous verdict, but if after a deliberation of at least four hours they are unable to agree, the Court can accept a verdict of not less than 5 to 2.

In ordinary cases two assessors sit with the Chief Justice; in capital cases there must not be less than four assessors. Male residents, of an age between 21 and 60, with a competent knowledge of English and a gross income of £50 a year, are liable to be called as jurymen, with the exception of members of Executive and Legislative Councils, Government officers, persons employed by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, practising physicians, surgeons, and apothecaries, barristers and solicitors and their clerks in actual practice, clergymen and ministers, naval and military officers, masters of vessels and licensed pilots, and persons disabled by mental and bodily infirmity. Persons are called to serve as assessors from lists compiled by the Colonial Secretary, or such other officer as the Governor may designate, consisting of such male persons as are considered qualified from their education and character to serve in such a capacity. Exemptions from serving as assessors are similar to those in the case of jurymen. In capital cases sentence of death is pronounced by the Chief Justice, by whom a copy of notes of the

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evidence taken at the trial is forwarded to the Governor with a report containing any recommendations or observations he may think fit to make. The Governor after considering the report in Executive Council communicates the terms of his decision to the Chief Justice, who causes the tenor and substance to be entered in the Court records. The Governor in these cases either issues a death warrant, an order for sentence of death to be commuted, or a pardon.

On the civil side, the Supreme Court has unlimited jurisdiction within the Colony and is governed in its practice by the Civil Procedure Rules, dated the 11th March, 1876, as amended by subsequent rules. These Rules are in substance the same as the rules contained in the first schedule to " The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1875 " forming the practice of the High Court of Justice in England, and where no other provision is made by " The Civil Procedure Rules (1875) " or by any other rules of the Supreme Court the procedure and practice for the time being of the Supreme Court of Judicature in England is in force.*

The Civil Procedure Rules have been supplemented in special matters by other rules, the chief of which are :—

The Bankruptcy Rules, 1890,

Rules of the Supreme Court (Probate), 1905,

Rules of 1906 dealing with Originating Summonses and Motions, and the Admiralty Rules already referred to.

Provision is made for obtaining evidence for Foreign Courts and Tribunals under Rules made in 1908 and service out of the jurisdiction and of foreign process within the jurisdiction are covered by Rules made in 1912.

The ordinary sittings of the Supreme Court are held in Suva and are three in number, Michaelmas Sittings beginning on the 1st November, Easter Sittings on the 1st March, and Trinity Sittings on the 1st August.†

An Ordinance of 1883 provides that if the Chief Justice shall think that the nature or amount of civil business pending at Levuka (the ancient capital) is sufficient to warrant the holding of a sitting there, he may appoint a date for such sitting. Of recent years this power has not been utilized and the provision of the " Levuka District Registry " by which all preliminary matters up to the actual hearing can be dealt with, has been very seldom used, as litigants prefer to come to Suva.

The only appeal from the Supreme Court is to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

The Courts of Summary Jurisdiction, both Criminal and Civil, are, in the country districts, presided over by the District Commissioners to whom the various districts are assigned, and in

* Cf. Rules of Supreme Court, 1894, p. 394, Royal Gazette, 1893.

† Rules, 1906.

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Suva, by the Chief Police Magistrate. Broadly speaking, the powers of these officers are confined to dealing with minor offences on the criminal side with power to inflict a maximum penalty of six months' imprisonment, while on the civil side the Summary Procedure Rules of 1916 limit their jurisdiction as Commissioners of the Supreme Court to claims not exceeding the amount of £50.

District Commissioners have Criminal jurisdiction throughout the Colony, but their Civil jurisdiction as Commissioners does not extend beyond the limits of the Magisterial Districts to which they are appointed. District Commissioners also conduct the preliminary investigations in all indictable cases, the procedure being laid down in Ordinance No. 3 of 1876. Appeal from decisions of these inferior Courts to the Supreme Court is provided* in criminal matters when (*a*) the amount adjudged to be paid exceeds £3, or (*b*) a person has been adjudged to be imprisoned without the option of a fine, or (*c*) a charge has been dismissed, or (*d*) in any other case with leave of the Court where the question involved is one which, in the opinion of the Court, is of sufficient importance to justify an appeal, provided that the party did not plead guilty, and also that an appeal from a decision dismissing a charge shall in every case be by way of a stated case on a point of law. Appeals to the Supreme Court from decisions of Commissioners in civil matters are provided for under the Summary Procedure Rules, 1916, in all cases in which any judgment or order is pronounced for or in respect of any sum or matter at issue above the amount or value of £10.

Administration in the districts is supplemented by Native Regulations which provide for the establishment of Courts having jurisdiction over natives of the Colony only. The Native Regulation Board has recently revised these Regulations and a new edition was brought into force by Proclamation in September, 1928. The Courts constituted under the Native Affairs Ordinance, 1876, and these Regulations, are of two kinds. Firstly, there are the Provincial Courts composed of the European Magistrate (District Commissioner) sitting with the Native Stipendiary Magistrate and dealing with matters under the Native Courts Code, 1927, and the other Regulations passed by the Board to govern the life of the natives in accordance with their customs, and their communal social system and their system of land-tenure. These Courts are given minor criminal and civil powers over natives and can hear petitions for divorce from natives but cannot pronounce decrees, the documents in each case being forwarded to the Chief Justice for actual decision. Secondly, there is the District Court, presided over by the Native Stipendiary Magistrate sitting alone, whose jurisdiction is limited to petty offences amongst natives involving a maximum penalty of 40s. or imprisonment for 2 months,

* Ordinance 2 of 1903.

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and in civil matters having jurisdiction where the sum of money or the value of the property claimed does not exceed 80s.

Provision is made for appeals from the District Court to the Provincial Court and from the Provincial Court to the Supreme Court.

On the criminal side of the Supreme Court there were, during the year 1929, 55 cases committed for trial involving some 43 accused. Amongst the cases heard were 4 for murder (involving in one instance 4 accused). Trials during the year held at the Central Criminal Court and Circuit Court resulted in 41 convictions and 18 acquittals. With regard to the balance, the Attorney-General entered a Nolle Prosequi in the case of 18 accused.

On the civil side, 77 actions were instituted in the Supreme Court during the year under review, as follows :—Summonses for debt, etc., 53; actions under mortgages, etc., 5; summonses for rent and rates, 2; actions for damages, 1; originating summonses, 10; adverse possession of land, 2; actions for specific performance, 1; miscellaneous, 3.

In the Appellate jurisdiction there were 7 criminal appeals, and 1 civil appeal, lodged.

In the Divorce Court, 10 petitions were filed, 7 being from Europeans and half-castes and the others from Indian petitioners. There was a slight decrease of petitions for divorce by natives under the provisions of the Divorce Regulation, 175 petitions coming before the Chief Justice for his decision. Seventy-four grants of Letters of Administration and Probate were made during the year, and in the Bankruptcy Court 4 petitions were presented, 2 being by Europeans, one by an Indian, and the other being the petition of a private company.

Police.

(*a*) *Strength.*—On 31st December, 1929, the authorized strength of the Constabulary was :—

Europeans :—	
Inspector-General	1
Deputy Inspector-General	1
District Inspectors	5
Sub-Inspectors, First Grade	4
Sub-Inspectors, Second Grade	8
Natives :—	
N.C.O.'s	22
Constables	90
Indians :—	
N.C.O.'s	13
Constables	90
	234

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The Force was four short of strength on that date.

The officers and men were distributed over 26 stations on 7 different islands.

(*b*) *Expenditure.*—The total cost of the Force for all services was £23,651 8s. 10d. The cost of the Police per man was £100 12s. 10d. and the cost per head of population was 2s. 7d.

(*c*) *Crime.*—The number of persons prosecuted for offences of all kinds was 2,815, classified as follows :—

Offences against the person	145
Offences against property	397
Other offences	2,273

(*d*) Supervision is exercised over all persons entering or leaving the Colony.

(*e*) *Traffic.*—All traffic is controlled by the Constabulary, which carries out the registration of motor vehicles and the examination and licensing of drivers.

The number of motor vehicles registered in the Colony is 1,310, being as follows :—

Motor cars for private use	515
Public motor passenger vehicles	355
Goods lorries	268
Motor cycles	172

271 persons were convicted of offences against the Traffic Ordinance and Regulations.

(*f*) *Training.*—The fact that it has not been possible to provide funds to establish a Reserve renders the proper training of recruits a matter of difficulty.

(*g*) *Health.*—The health of the Force was good throughout the Colony, very few men reporting sick.

(*h*) *Barracks.*—Except at Suva, the accommodation is adequate. It is hoped that the contemplated extension and reconstruction of the headquarters buildings and offices will be undertaken in 1930. These new buildings, when completed, will be of great benefit to the members of the Force and to the public who have business to transact with the Police.

(*i*) The work of the Force is hampered by the lack of communications between the various stations, and between these and headquarters. Especially is this so in the case of inter-island communication, and it is a cause for satisfaction that the general well-being of the population and the consequent rareness of serious crime render these difficulties of less importance than they would otherwise be.

Prisons.

The prisons of the Colony are under the charge of a Superintendent.

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The main penitentiary, at Suva, is an up-to-date establishment conducted on modern prison lines. Industries have been established whereby prisoners are taught useful trades such as tinsmithing, blacksmithing, matmaking, tailoring, and carpentering. There is also a bakery which supplies bread to the various Government institutions in and around Suva. There are nineteen Provincial or District Gaols, where short-sentence prisoners are confined, these being employed principally in maintaining the Government Stations.

The number of persons committed to the prisons of the Colony during the last five years was as follows :—

	Male.	*Female.*
1925	1,130	9
1926	997	30
1927	1,081	17
1928	1,209	15
1929	1,360	18
Average over period	1,155.4	17.8

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total sum expended by the Public Works Department for 1929 amounted to £223,126 12s. 1d., of which £86,307 2s. 11d. was expended under Loan Works Account. This marks another record in the operations of the Public Works Department, corresponding figures for the last five years being as follows :—

	£
1925	128,387
1926	149,889
1927	191,325
1928	205,234
1929	223,126

The administration of public works is under the control of the Commissioner of Works, with headquarters at Suva. For general executive purposes the Colony is divided into three districts, with headquarters in Suva, Lautoka, and Levuka. Each of these districts is nominally under the charge of a District Engineer.

The Suva district is the most important and is based on Walu Bay, near Suva, where are situated the Government stores, machine shops, repair shops, and boatyard. The motor transport system, consisting of motor vehicles, inspection and towing launches, lighters, floating crane, etc., operates from Walu Bay. Further equipment was purchased and installed during the year, notably a complete tin-smithing and sheet metal working plant in the machine shop, and band saw, chain morticing machine and planing machine in the boat yard. There is a slipway which is

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able to accommodate the inter-insular contract steamer of nearly 1,000 tons; a second slipway for small craft was completed towards the end of the year.

The number of workmen employed by the Department in the Suva District is about 1,000, and the value of the work carried out in 1929 was approximately £102,000.

The hostel attached to the Girls' Grammar School, Suva, was completed at a cost of £13,500, and the building was opened in March.

The Secretary of State during the year approved of the construction of the bridge across the Rewa river, and the services of a bridge engineer were obtained from Messrs. Dorman Long and Company, the contractors for the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The necessary surveys were made and plans prepared, but as the design submitted, for a steel structure, was not entirely suited to local conditions, an alternative design for a concrete bridge is in course of preparation.

Approval was given during the year for the erection in Suva of seven bungalows for Civil Servants, and sites for these dwellings were chosen on the Domain Circular Road. Work was started in October, and two bungalows were ready for occupation by the end of the year. This work is being expedited in every possible way so that the shortage of Government quarters which has existed for so long may be in part removed.

Roads and bridges in all parts of the Colony continued to receive the special attention of the Department, the total expenditure under this heading being £90,925, of which £36,259 was on Loan account. The streets and roads within the Municipal areas of Suva and Levuka are maintained and improved by the respective Councils. The roads in the immediate vicinity of Suva, outside the Municipality, are under the direct supervision of the District Engineer, while the remainder of the Colony is divided for purposes of road administration into sixteen road board areas, which, as a rule, coincide with the Magisterial Districts.

The construction of the road between the Government headquarters in the Rewa district and the Tailevu Dairy Scheme, which was started in September, 1928, was continued during the year, and by the 31st December all the earth work, with the exception of the approaches to three of the bridges, was finished, and it is anticipated that the road will be opened to traffic about the middle of 1930. This road, in addition to providing ready means of access to the Dairy Scheme, forms an important link in the projected main coastal road round the island of Viti Levu.

Motor traffic is increasing throughout the Colony, and the policy of gradually improving earth roads with metal or gravel surfaces is producing good results. Thirteen additional lorries were provided for the use of country road boards.

Although only about 15 miles of new roads were made during 1929, there has been a steady improvement throughout the group

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in the provision of better road surfaces for motor transport. Valuable work is done by the country Road Boards, and the appointment of an Inspecting Roads Engineer will ensure closer co-operation between them and the central administration.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total estimated population at the end of December, 1929, was 180,005, including Fijians 91,711, Indians 73,121, and Europeans 4,726.

The general death rate was 17.60 per mille, or 1 per mille less than the previous year. The Fijian death rate at 24.66 was rather less than in 1928, and the Indian death rate, at only 9.06, was over 1 per mille less than in 1928.

The general birth rate was 32.79 per mille, slightly less than the previous year.

The one outstanding event of the year, from the public health point of view, was the widespread epidemic of bacillary dysentery, of the Shiga variety. Starting in February in the lower Rewa District it rapidly spread to all surrounding districts, including Suva and its environs, and generally followed the lines of communication to other parts of the Colony. Infection was conveyed, in the main, by contacts and carriers. It is many years since an epidemic of such unusual virulence has occurred here, all races being affected. It is possible that a different strain of the disease, to which there was no relative immunity present, was introduced into the Colony early in the year. The epidemic subsided in the cooler months, but there was a recrudescence in November and December. The mortality was considerable, especially in very young children, who seemed particularly prone to the disease.

The hurricane and floods of December resulted, as they always do, in a great plague of flies, which helped no doubt materially in the spread of the dysentery. Rotting vegetation, and soil pollution resulting from the filling up and overflowing of latrines and the cutting off of the main water supply to the towns on the left bank of the Rewa river, all played their part.

The vaccination campaign was brought to a close, and Fiji may now be considered a well vaccinated country.

There were twenty-one European Medical Officers on the staff, including the Chief Medical Officer, and there was one Indian Medical Officer stationed at Nadi. One additional European Sanitary Inspector was appointed for the north part of Viti Levu.

The Infant Welfare Campaign amongst Fijian children was continued, and there are now three whole-time trained nurses employed; a lady doctor is also a part-time worker.

During the year the campaign against yaws and ringworm, which is partly financed by the Rockefeller Foundation, was continued.

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The care of public health in the country districts is in the hands of fourteen District Medical Officers, forty-three Native Medical Practitioners, a European Sanitary Inspector, a European Ankylostomiasis Officer, and five Indian Sanitary Inspectors.

In Suva there is a whole-time Medical Officer of Health, three European Sanitary Inspectors, and one Fijian Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

Besides the thirteen Provincial Hospitals there are General Hospitals at Levuka, Lautoka, Nadi, and Ra, an Indian Women's Hospital at Ba conducted by the Methodist Mission and subsidized by the Government, and also subsidized European Cottage Hospitals at Ba, Savusavu, and Taveuni.

The Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva has 113 beds. There is a European Nursing Staff of 5 trained Nurses and 12 Probationers, and there are 24 Native Nursing Pupils. There are two full-time Resident Medical Officers. Attached to the hospital is a Central Medical School for Natives. The school, which is an expansion of the former Native Medical School, was completed and opened in 1928. Funds were provided by the Government of Fiji, and by the other Administrations in the Western Pacific which had agreed to send students to the school. The Rockefeller Foundation has contributed £8,000 towards the construction and maintenance of the school. At the end of 1922, 19 Fijian and 4 Indian pupils from Fiji, 5 Samoans, 4 Gilbert Islanders, 4 Tongans, 1 Cook Islander, 1 student for the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, and 2 Fijians for the New Hebrides were in residence. A Medical Officer is whole-time tutor to the school, and there are six other lecturers and demonstrators.

Lepers of all races in Fiji are compulsorily segregated on the Island of Makogai, and lepers from New Zealand, Samoa, Tonga, and the Cook Islands are also received there.

The staff includes a Resident Medical Superintendent, and 12 European and 8 Fijian Roman Catholic Nursing Sisters. There were 442 patients in the Asylum at the end of the year, of whom 7 were from New Zealand, 10 from Samoa, 11 from Tonga, and 54 from the Cook Islands.

IX.—EDUCATION.

The early history of education in Fiji is closely associated with the activities of both the Methodist and the Roman Catholic Missions, and at the present time the following bodies are all interested practically in education: Methodist Mission (1835), Roman Catholic Mission (1844), Church of England Mission (1870), Seventh Day Adventist Mission (1889), the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited (1880), and local Fijian and Indian organizations.

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Nearly fifty years ago the Government opened an Industrial School at Yanawai for Fijians, and some years later (1890) the increase in the number of Europeans settled in the Colony necessitated the opening of public schools in Suva and Levuka for European pupils. About this time, also, the Roman Catholic Mission founded schools in Suva for their European adherents.

In 1916 an official Education Department was created in order to systematize the activities of the various bodies engaged in educational work. The School Boards were replaced by the Board of Education and by School Committees, and Ordinances were passed to allow grants-in-aid to be made to primary and vernacular schools attended by pupils of all races settled in the Colony. In addition, the registration of all schools and teachers was made compulsory.

As a result of a resolution of the Great Council of Chiefs held in 1917, six provincial boarding schools for Fijians were established during the years 1920-1925, at which selected Fijian village pupils are enabled to receive a primary education under the guidance of European headmasters.

In 1926 an Education Commission was appointed to investigate the educational facilities provided in the Colony and to make recommendations for their improvement.

A new Education Ordinance was passed in 1929 making provision for a complete registration and grading of all schools and teachers, together with wider provisions for the control of schools; and all regulations and courses of instruction were re-cast, as were also the examination courses prescribed for non-European teachers. The regrading of all schools under the new Ordinance is now in progress. A Government Teachers' Training School was established for Fijian and Indian students, and financial provision was made for the establishment of an advanced class for Indian boys equivalent to that for Fijians already existing at Nasinu. The total amount of grants-in-aid for assisted schools has been very substantially increased, enabling the Board of Education to make grants to a larger number of schools, and to increase the rate of the grants; that to the Methodist Mission Training School being increased fourfold.

An Inspector of Indian Schools, and a temporary Inspector whose work will be more in relation to Fijian Schools, have been appointed. The question of levying an Education Rate is under consideration.

The Education Department is taking an active interest in the Boy Scout movement, which now numbers over 1,000 members.

The educational facilities provided for European pupils are as follows:—

Under a scheme of co-operation existing between the Governments of New Zealand and Fiji, the Colony is enabled to obtain

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trained teachers for the Boys' and Girls' Grammar Schools which exist in Suva, and for the Public School, Levuka. The syllabus of instruction is designed to meet the requirements of examinations up to the standard of the New Zealand University Matriculation examination. The three schools have well-equipped hostels. The boarding fees for the Suva schools are £50 per annum, and the tuition fees for non-ratepayers are £2 2s. 0d. per annum for primary pupils and £7 10s. 0d. per annum for secondary pupils.

In addition, the Roman Catholic Orders of the Sisters of St. Joseph de Cluny and of the Marist Brothers provide a sound education to a secondary standard.

Small schools with certificated European mistresses have been established at five country centres of European population in which children are given a primary education. Young children, whose parents live in isolated places, may be enrolled in the correspondence classes conducted by the Education Department.

For the Fijian natives a complete system of education is gradually being developed. Many of the villages possess a vernacular school managed by one or other of the Missions, and from a village school a pupil may proceed to one of ten assisted primary schools, or to one of the six Government provincial boarding schools. In all Government schools manual occupations form part of the curriculum, and the pupils grow all native foodstuffs required for their maintenance. From the provincial schools the Fijian youth may proceed to the Queen Victoria School, or to one of the various Mission training institutions at which a higher education is provided. For the selected few there are Government scholarships enabling them to continue their studies in New Zealand.

As regards Indian education, there are two Government Indian Schools as well as other schools established by the Missions and private enterprise which are aided by Government grants. There were at the end of 1929 39 assisted schools to which Indians are admitted and some 40 private schools for Indians.

Under the provisions of the Registration of Schools and Teachers Ordinance, 1918, 646 schools and 1,422 teachers were registered up to 31st December, 1929.

The majority of these schools are native village schools in which instruction is given in the vernacular, in reading and in writing. There are now altogether 129 Government and assisted schools, nine are for Europeans and pupils of mixed European descent, 78 for Fijians, 41 for Indians, one for Chinese and one for Melanesians, while the Government Teachers' Training School has both Indian and Fijian students. They are attended by 7,183 pupils, of whom 723 are Europeans, or of European descent, 3,879 are Fijians and others, and 2,581 Indians. The staffs consist of 75 European, 105 Fijian, and 61 Indian teachers.

The annual expenditure on education, which amounted to about £3,000 per annum prior to 1915, increased to £30,039 in 1925,

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£31,584 in 1926, £34,027 in 1927, £36,089 in 1928 and £40,610 in 1929.

The following is a list of the external examinations for which candidates may be entered: Cambridge Local Examinations (Preliminary, Junior, and School Certificate): New Zealand Education Department Examinations—Standard VI Proficiency and Public Service Entrance Examinations: New Zealand University Examinations, including Matriculation, Accountancy, Preliminary Examinations, and Degree and Diploma Examinations: London University Examinations, including Matriculation and various Degree Examinations: Australian Examinations, such as that for the Diploma of the Australian Trained Nurses Association, and the licence examination of the Federated Surveyors Boards of Australia and New Zealand.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

Prior to the British occupation of Fiji, European settlers had acquired large areas of land from the native chiefs, and, after the Deed of Cession, Crown grants for land, on claims substantiated before the Lands Commission, were issued. In this manner 414,615 acres were alienated.

By the year 1912, Crown grants for a further area of 20,184 acres of land purchased from the natives had been issued, but in this year the sale of native lands, except to the Government for specific purposes, was prohibited.

The standard tenure of land is leasehold up to 99 years for leases for agricultural purposes, 75 years for building purposes, and 21 years with option of renewal for a further period of 21 years, subject to re-assessment of the rental, for leases for pastoral purposes. The rent for an agricultural leasehold for the maximum period of 99 years is subject to re-assessment in the thirty-third and sixty-sixth years, or in the thirtieth and sixtieth years in the case of a lease for less than the maximum period. In leases for building purposes the rent is subject to re-assessment in the twenty-fifth and fiftieth years. In all cases the rent is subject to re-assessment, to a maximum not exceeding five per centum of the unimproved capital value of the land. Lessees of expiring leaseholds of native-owned land are afforded a considerable measure of security of continuance of tenure by legislation which provides that, in the event of refusal of the native owners, without just cause, to surrender control of the land for renewal of an expiring lease, the Governor-in-Council may require the native owners to agree to renew the lease or to pay such amount of compensation as the Governor-in-Council may decide to be the reasonable value of the permanent and unexhausted improvements made on the leasehold by the lessee.

Leases of Crown lands are submitted as a rule to public auction, usually with an upset premium of £2 to cover the cost of advertising

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the auction sale. Leases of small areas applied for by Indians are exempt from sale by public auction. Instructions for survey are issued by the Crown Surveyor on payment of the survey fees by the lessee, who is then entitled to enter into occupation.

The rent of land in Fiji varies according to situation and quality. Pasturable lands vary from 1d. to 2s. per acre, coconut lands from 6d. to 5s., hill land from 6d. to 2s., banana, sugar-cane, rice and maize land from 5s. to £1, the latter rental prevailing only in certain favoured localities in which supply and demand have resulted in that high rent.

The following statement shows the position as regards land alienated at the end of the year 1929 :—

Nature of Title.	*No. of Titles.*	*Area.*	*In process of alienation.*		*Total.*	*Total area of Colony.*
			No. of Lots.	*Estimated Area.*		
		Acres.		*Acres.*	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
Freeholds	1,590	531,656	—	—	531,656	4,523,620
Leases of Crown Land	365	20,718	90	6,727	27,445	—
Leases of Native Land	6,533	364,217	709	9,716	373,933	—
		Total...			933,034	4,523,620

Five hundred and ninety applications for leases of native lands aggregating 19,641 acres were received during the year. Of these, 282 applications for 4,117 acres were approved and 214 applications for 13,248 acres were under consideration at the end of the year. Applications by Indians formed 86 per cent. of the total. One hundred and fifty-seven applications for leases of Crown lands aggregated 5,529 acres. Of these, sixty-six applications for 3,466 acres were approved and seventy-three for 1,678 acres were under consideration at the end of the year, the remainder having been declined or withdrawn.

Survey.

The survey staff of the Lands Department consists of five officers, two of whom are necessarily almost continuously employed at headquarters. During 1929 the field staff were employed almost wholly on investigations and miscellaneous surveys, including surveys of native leases, and comparatively little main traverse work was possible. Five surveyors in private practice were employed under instructions from the Crown Surveyor on surveys for leases of native and Crown lands.

Three hundred and forty-two plans of surveys by Government and private surveyors were examined and passed for issue of leases.

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A travelling Inspector of Leases was appointed on the 1st July, 1929, with headquarters in Suva.

Native Lands Commission.

The Native Lands Commission, which operates under the Native Lands Ordinance No. 1 of 1905, is charged with the duty of ascertaining what lands in each Province of the Colony are the rightful and hereditary property of native Fijian owners, and whether the ownership is by Mataqali (a tribal division) or by some other division or subdivision of the people.

The Commission consists of a European chairman and three native chiefs of the highest rank. The clerical staff is composed entirely of native officers, and the official language of the Commission is Fijian.

The members of the Commission are vested with the same powers as those vested in District Commissioners, to summon and examine on oath any person whom they think are able to give relevant evidence, and to require the attendance of all claimants to any land the title of which is being inquired into, and of all persons likely to be interested in such land.

Any appeal against any decision of the Native Lands Commission, provided notice of appeal is lodged within sixty days of the announcement of the decision, is heard and determined by the Governor-in-Council, whose decision is final. If no notice of desire to appeal is given, the record of the decision is conclusive.

All lands recorded by the Commission as the rightful and hereditary property of native Fijians are surveyed by a staff of surveyors especially employed for the purpose. The cost of the survey is borne by the proprietary unit owning the land and is assessed on a scale prepared by the Crown Surveyor and approved by the Governor-in-Council. The law requires that the cost of survey shall be paid within six months after demand; but, if it is proved to the satisfaction of the Governor that any proprietary unit is unable to pay, the Governor is empowered to make such order as may seem fit and just. Natives have shown no disinclination to pay for the survey of their lands; and to the 31st December, 1929, £15,485 had been recovered and paid into the Treasury.

The Commission, in 1929, completed investigations in the Province of Cakaudrove, and also operated in the Provinces of Kadavu and Tailevu (North). The survey staff attached to the Commission comprises ten surveyors and five supernumerary officers.

Survey operations were carried out in the Provinces of Colo East, Naitasiri, Rewa, Macuata, and Bua.

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XI.—LABOUR.

The conditions under which native Fijians are employed as manual labourers differ in one most important respect from those which govern the employment of labour in most other parts of the world. There is no such thing as a labouring class of Fijians dependent for their subsistence upon their earnings as labourers. Every Fijian is a member of a land-owning tribal unit and has the right to use a portion of the tribal lands for planting crops for food and profit or for the raising of cattle. He shares by right of birth in the income derived from permanent crops such as coconuts existing on his tribal lands, and in the rents from lands which are leased. If he remains in his village, he is provided with a house of native construction built by the community of which he is a member. Beyond performing his share of the work done for its own benefit by the community as a whole he pays no rent either for his land or his house. He is, in fact, a small-holder, owning his own land and house and capable of supporting himself and his dependents from the produce of his lands. In most cases he is also a landlord, and in the more closely settled districts receives a not inconsiderable income from the rents of leased lands. There is, therefore, no necessity for any Fijian to work for wages in order to support himself and his family. The vast majority of the Fijians do in fact support themselves by cultivating their own lands. An average of about 10 per cent. of the adult male population elects to work for wages for periods which in most cases seldom exceed one year. A few of the more enterprising amongst them leave their communities and live as independent units upon their earnings. Most of them, however, go to work as labourers for a definite period in order to obtain money for a specific object such as a church, a boat, or material for a European-style house. When sufficient money has been obtained for the object in view they return to their villages and resume their work as agriculturists. In this manner the personnel of the labourers is constantly changing and the number of labourers employed in any one year does not represent a definite section of the community which is dependent for its existence upon its wage-earning capacity. Thus the labour conditions do not exercise any considerable influence upon the Fijians as a whole apart from affording them a means of acquiring additional social amenities and of taking part in all branches of industry within the Colony.

The employment of Fijians falls mainly into the following five classes: agricultural labourers, casual labourers, artisans, seamen, and domestic servants.

Agricultural labourers are usually employed under a contract of service for a period of 12 months. The average wage is £24 a year on copra plantations and in the majority of cases for those who sign agreements with the Sugar Company £18 a year and a bonus

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of £5 at the conclusion of the contract, and in addition the employer provides food, lodging, medical attention, and a certain amount of clothing. The hours of labour are nine per day from Monday to Friday and five on Saturday, making a working week of 50 hours. When additional hours are worked by the labourers they are either paid overtime or given time off to compensate for their additional work. Most of the agricultural labourers are employed on the copra and sugar cane estates. In many instances the labourers take their wives and families with them and quarters are provided for them by the employers. The cost of bringing labourers to an estate and of returning them to their villages on completion of their term of service is borne by the employers. A large proportion of the labourers elect to receive house-building material to the value of their wages instead of cash, and they take back this material for the erection of European-style houses in their villages. The taxes of all labourers are paid by the employer for the period of their service as labourers. No native may enter into a contract of service as an agricultural labourer for a period exceeding 12 months. Every contract of service for a period exceeding one month must be made before a District Commissioner who may withhold his consent to the contract if it appears to him to be unreasonable or inequitable. Apart from the comprehensive safeguards provided by law for the proper treatment and care of agricultural labourers, the limitation of the period of service under contract and the constant changing of the personnel of the labourers effectively prevents any ill-treatment by the employer. As all recruiting of labourers is entirely voluntary, any employer who earns a bad reputation amongst the Fijians finds very great difficulty in getting any labourers to work under agreement on his estate.

The employment of natives as casual labourers is practically confined to the ports of Suva and Levuka and Lautoka. They are employed chiefly for the loading and unloading of foreign-going ships and they return to their villages after the loading of each ship is completed. The average wage paid for this class of labour is 4s. a day. A limited number are employed by the week by the commercial houses for the distribution of merchandise, and are paid £1 a week. Most of the labourers thus employed come from the native villages in the vicinity of the ports, and as their personnel is constantly changing they do not form a class of casual labourers. The number of Fijians employed as artisans is comparatively small, but is slowly increasing as the facilities for training are extended. They are mostly employed as carpenters, boat-builders, marine engineers, and firemen. The wages of carpenters and boat-builders vary from 7s. to 12s. a day, according to the skill of the worker. Marine engineers who are employed to drive the auxiliary power units in small inter-insular vessels are paid from £6 to £10 a month according to the size of the vessel in

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which they are employed. In addition to their wages they are supplied with food by the employer. As most of their time is spent at sea their wages are ample for the support of their dependents. A few natives are employed as firemen on inter-insular vessels and are paid an average wage of £5 a month.

Most of the small inter-insular boats are manned entirely by Fijians under the charge of a certificated native master. The wages paid to a Fijian master of a vessel vary from £6 to £16 a month according to the size of the vessel. The wages of the crew vary from £3 to £8 a month for a mate and from £2 to £4 a month for ordinary seamen. In all cases food is supplied by the owner of the vessel. Practically all native seamen are employed by the month and very few contracts are made for service over an extended period.

Very few Fijians are employed as domestic servants. Native cooks are paid from £4 to £6 a month and house-boys and waiters from £2 to £4 a month. Food and quarters are provided by the employer, and the employment can generally be terminated by either party at one month's notice.

The employment of Fijians for skilled and unskilled work is in all cases a matter of agreement between the employer and the worker. No scale of wages is laid down by law, but where agreements are entered into for any period over one month the District Commissioner may disallow the agreement if the terms offered are unreasonable. The constant changes amongst the individual labourers do not impose upon the natives a prolonged absence from their villages. Thus the social system under which the Fijians live is not seriously impaired by the employment of natives as labourers, nor is there any sensible weakening of tribal and customary control.

The majority of Indians who signed on for contract labour under the Masters and Servants Ordinance during the year 1928 were employed by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company during the cane-crushing season. The total number of Indian labourers employed by the Company remained about the same as in the previous year.

Approximately 3,000 are employed during the planting season, the number rising to over 4,000 during the harvesting and crushing season, inclusive of those working under written agreements.

It is difficult to estimate the number of Indian labourers dependent mainly on wages. In 1921 this was put at 5,000. The number so dependent is now considerably less, and only a small minority of Indian labourers are entirely dependent on their cash earnings. The great majority live on plots or small allotments on the outskirts of settlements, and family earnings are supplemented by the produce of these and of the poultry and cows which are kept almost universally.

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There has been practically no change in the general level of cash wages. In Suva the ordinary rate is 3s. per day (normally eight hours). The standard in country districts is 2s. to 2s. 6d. per day. Wages for semi-skilled labour run up to 4s. and 5s. per day.

The information as to wages paid by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company may be summarized as follows :—

For regular employees of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company cash wages are supplemented by the provision of free accommodation and free medical attendance, a privilege extended to the families of labourers, who also are granted facilities for keeping cows. In addition to this employees of the Company are entitled to concession rates for their food supplies at the Company's stores. At current prices the concession is worth about 1s. 4d. a week to a single man and correspondingly more to men with families.

For field work the ordinary wage is 1s. 8d. per day for a six hours' task, with opportunities for working extra time. A bonus of 6d. per week is given for a full week's work. Harvest wages are by piece work at a standard rate per ton, and cane cutters earn up to 22s. 6d. per week or more. Skilled agricultural labourers, ploughmen, tractor drivers and the like are paid at special rates ranging from 9s. 9d. to 17s. per week, with a bonus for a full week's work. A full week's work is normally 5½ days.

In the mills during the slack season wages range from 10s. to 21s. a week, with an additional bonus. Special workmen are paid up to 30s. a week. During the crushing season the basic wage is 11s. 6d. a week with higher wages for a large proportion for special work and extra wages for overtime. Bonuses for a full week's work range from 2s. 3d. to 3s. 9d. Men engaged for the season (about six months) are also entitled to an extra bonus of £4 to £4 10s. 0d. for a full season's work.

The general range of wages for domestic servants in the Colony is from £3 a month for garden hands (5½ days) to £5 or £6 for cooks and table servants (generally 6½ days), with food supplied during the day. The great majority of domestic servants live in their own homes. Car drivers are paid £8 per month and upwards.

Indian wages in outlying plantations are higher than those quoted above and are generally supplemented by free quarters and food supplies at concession rates.

Public Works Department Labour.

The total number of labourers, skilled and unskilled, at present employed under the Public Works Department, including Road Boards, is about 1,400; of these 1,000 are employed in the Suva

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District and 400 in the various country districts. The nationalities of the labour employed are as follows :—

Europeans.	*Half-castes.*	*Indians.*	*Fijians.*	*Others.*
75	110	700	490	25

Of the total of 1,400 more than half are road labourers. Of these 592 are Indians and 254 Fijians. The Fijian does not, as a rule, care for the heavy routine work of repairing roads, and it is only in the country districts where Indian labour is scarce that they are employed on the roads. On the other hand, the majority of carpenters, boat-builders, and water transport workers are Fijians. The majority of unskilled labour on road and quarry works, and of builders' and dockyard labourers are Indians.

Indian labour is scarce throughout the Colony, and it is the usual custom for the labouring class of Indian to cultivate small areas of paddy or maize in addition to performing daily work. During the planting and harvesting seasons considerable numbers of labourers spend the whole of their time on their small holdings, and labour gangs are consequently depleted.

The general rate of wages for unskilled labour in the Suva district is 3s. per day of eight hours, and 2s. 6d. in the country. Where Indian labour is scarce in country districts Fijians command a somewhat higher rate. Levuka, for instance, has to pay 4s. for Fijians, and Taveuni and Colo East 3s. In other cases the rates are the same for Indians and Fijians, at 2s. 6d. There are about 850 unskilled labourers employed by the Department. In addition there is a body of about 200 which can only be classed as semi-skilled men, earning from 3s. 6d. up to 6s. per day as members of launch crews, slipway hands, helpers to various trades, timekeepers, painters, and so on. Among the skilled trades it is sometimes difficult to obtain trained men, and comparatively high wages are commanded by good tradesmen. Europeans are employed as road overseers, lorry, crane, and steam-roller drivers, fitters, machinists, and blacksmiths.

The half-castes usually find employment in the building trades as carpenters, joiners, and boat-builders.

The wages of skilled workmen vary considerably with the individual standard of skill. There are no fixed rates, and no trade unions.

The following figures will give some idea of the current rates :—

Carpenters and Joiners.—From 3s. 6d. up to £1 per day, depending on the degree of skill. Half-caste carpenters from 7s. 6d. to 16s. per day. Fijians can earn up to 12s. per day.

Boat-builders.—(Chiefly half-castes), from 8s. up to £1 per day. Semi-skilled Fijians employed in the boat-sheds from 3s. 9d. up to 8s.

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Painters.—(Usually Indians), 3s. 6d. per day. Leaders up to 9s. per day.

Mechanics.—(Including motor mechanics, fitters, turners, blacksmiths, boilersmiths, etc.), up to £1 per day. Apprentices (usually Europeans and half-castes) 5s. rising to £2 5s. 0d. per week.

Lorry and steam-roller drivers.—(Chiefly Europeans), 15s. to 18. per day. The average wages are about £4 15s. per week.

Road Overseers.—(Chiefly Europeans), £18 to £25 per month. Road Gang Sirdars (Indians) £4 10s. 0d. up to £10 8s. 0d. per month. Average wages £7 per month.

XII.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The administration of native affairs is conducted under the provisions of the Native Regulations, and through a system of Native Councils which gives to the Fijian a large share of self-government on lines which harmonize with tradition and custom. The District Councils, which are purely native Councils under the direction of the Chief of the District, have power to make regulations, subject to the approval of the Governor, concerning the health, good government, and prosperity of their respective districts, and of electing representatives to the Provincial Councils. The Provincial Councils, which are under the direction of the Secretary for Native Affairs, or such officer as may be appointed by the Governor, have similar powers with regard to their respective Provinces and have also the power of electing representatives to the Great Council of Chiefs. The Great Council of Chiefs, which meets every two years, advises the Governor on all matters pertaining to the welfare and progress of the Fijians and also nominates Chiefs from whom the Governor selects the Fijian representatives to the Legislative Council. The selected and nominated members of the Legislative Council hold office for three years. These Councils provide the necessary links between the natives and the Government to ensure an adequate representation of the wishes and opinions of the natives throughout the Colony.

All offences against the provisions of the Native Regulations are tried by specially constituted Courts. Minor infringements are dealt with by Native Stipendiary Magistrates in District Courts, from which appeal lies to the European Magistrate of the District. All graver offences are dealt with in the Provincial Courts in which a European District Commissioner and a Native Stipendiary Magistrate jointly preside. Appeal lies from the Provincial Court to the Supreme Court of the Colony.

In addition to broadening the basis of representation of native opinion, the Native Regulations make provision for the better care

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of women and children and of sick persons; for the better control of unmarried girls and of women living in industrial centres; for the prohibition of irregular unions; for the more effective registration of births and deaths; and for the determination of the legitimacy of children born in wedlock. Provision is also made to ensure the safeguarding of funds collected for purposes of common benefit or private enterprise, to prohibit the unauthorized collection of money by promises of future gain, to secure a money payment in lieu of communal services from men absent from their villages for more than a year, to enforce more strictly the law for the suppression of gambling, and to ensure the maintenance of the wives and families of men absent from their villages. The Regulations are based upon native custom and are in accord with the wishes of the most enlightened section of the native community.

The general health of the natives is under the care of the Medical Service. Four general hospitals and fifteen provincial hospitals are in operation. The Government Medical staff includes 19 European Medical Officers and 51 Native Medical Practitioners. In addition there is a large staff of trained nurses in the general hospitals and 36 Native Obstetric Nurses distributed throughout the country districts. Native Medical Practitioners are trained in the Central Medical School attached to the War Memorial Hospital, Suva. This school accommodates 40 students of whom 20 are Fijians. A school is also maintained in conjunction with the hospital for the training of 24 Native Obstetric Nurses each year. The total sum expended on medical services last year was £80,935, or 12.4 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Colony. To this sum the natives, through their Provincial Funds, contributed £4,700. In return for their contribution the natives receive free medical and surgical treatment at all hospitals and at the hands of all European Medical Officers, Native Medical Practitioners, and Native Obstetric Nurses. The majority of the Native Medical Practitioners are stationed in the country districts and are not attached to hospitals. These men travel throughout the districts, attending to the sick in their own homes and giving advice and direction in sanitary matters in general. The Native Obstetric Nurses attend confinements either at the provincial hospitals or in the native villages and give practical instruction to the mothers in the care of infants. Apart from general medical treatment a great amount of work has been done in reducing the incidence of particular diseases and in providing protection against infection. In 1928 a campaign was started with the object of vaccinating the whole population against smallpox. At the end of last year 86 per cent. of the native population had either been vaccinated or had proved sufficient vaccination within the last seven years. Widespread inoculation against typhoid fever has also been carried out and this disease is not now regarded as a serious menace to the natives. A campaign for the treatment of ankylostomiasis has been conducted under the

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direction of Dr. Lambert of the Rockefeller Foundation and considerably over 20,000 cases treated. This disease is no longer a serious cause of ill-health in any district in the Colony. Special attention has been paid to the treatment of yaws and ringworm and the incidence of these diseases has been considerably reduced throughout the Colony. During the month of February an epidemic of dysentery of a severe type commenced in the district of Bureta. The epidemic continued more or less throughout the year and extended to almost every district in the Colony. In spite of this the death-rate, 24.66, was 0.29 per mille better than during the previous year. The birth-rate was 31.91 and the total increase 683, against 765 in 1928. There were 973 marriages amongst natives during the year. The total native population at the end of 1929 was estimated at 91,711.

Child Welfare Work amongst the natives which was begun in 1927 is now in operation, under the personal direction of fully qualified European Nurses, assisted by Native Obstetric Nurses in eight provinces of the Colony and, in the native towns around Suva and Nausori, under the voluntary supervision of Dr. Roberts, the wife of the American Consul. This work is organized on the most practical lines designed to reach the maximum number of women and to teach them methods of mothercraft which they are capable of adopting and carrying out successfully. The general method of procedure is for the European Nurse to make regular visits to each town in her Province, to inspect the women and children and the homes in which they live, to treat minor ailments, skin diseases, etc., and to give instruction to the women on all matters relating to child-birth and the care of children and the home. Special attention is paid to pregnant women who receive advice during their pregnancy and the services of Obstetric Nurses during their confinement. Infants are weighed and a record of their weights kept so that necessary treatment can be given in all cases where progress is unsatisfactory. In each village a committee of women is appointed and provided with a supply of medicines for treating simple ailments. The members of the Committee hold regular inspections of the children and see that they are properly cared for and receive medical attention when necessary. They also report to the European Nurse or nearest Medical Officer any cases of serious illness.

The immediate effect of this work is an undoubted improvement in the general health of the women and children and in the cleanliness of their homes and a freedom from minor ills which they have not previously enjoyed. The less obvious but equally important effects are the creation in the women of a desire to improve, of their volition, the conditions under which they live and bring up their children and the raising of the physical standard of the race by providing the rising generation with comparative freedom from disease during the critical period of childhood. The full effects of

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this work will not be felt for many years to come but the keen interest displayed by the women and their efforts to profit by the assistance and instruction given to them indicates that it will be of immense benefit to the race. The success which has so far attended this work is due in a very large measure to the devoted work of the European nurses engaged therein. In many districts this work necessitates almost constant travelling by the nurses either on horseback or on foot through difficult country, and under most trying conditions. The Colony is singularly fortunate in securing the services of nurses who, embued with a spirit of self sacrifice, are willing to undertake this arduous work for the benefit of the natives.

Allied to Child Welfare Work proper, is the work of the Travelling Medical Officer. The duties of this officer are to supervise the work of the Native Medical Practitioners and Native Obstetric Nurses to endeavour to bring about improvement in the sanitary conditions of native villages.

Under the Native Regulations, Fijian children are required to attend school up to the age of fourteen years. No restrictions are placed upon the parents' choice of a school, which is only limited by geographical conditions and the capacity of the schools available. As the elementary education of the natives remains largely in the hands of the several religious bodies established in the Colony, the parents' choice generally falls upon a school conducted by the denomination to which they belong. In most native villages the boys and girls are taught the rudiments of education by native teachers most of whom have received some training at the central Mission schools. Where conditions permit several villages join together in the establishment of a joint school, in some of which certificated teachers are employed. At many of the Mission stations there are large boarding schools conducted by a European missionary or priest assisted by Mission sisters and native teachers. From these schools many of the pupils continue their education at the central schools and training colleges operated by the Missions whose curricula include branches of technical education. A limited number of Fijian youths are trained in modern methods of agriculture at the Methodist Mission Agricultural School at Navuso. A number of the older native girls receive education and training in domestic science at the Methodist Mission Girls' School at Matavelo.

In addition to the Mission schools there are in some Provinces boarding schools controlled by the Provincial Commissioner or Roko and supported by native funds. There are also six Joint Provincial schools under direct Government control in which selected pupils from all the Provinces receive a good primary education. These schools are under the direct control of fully qualified European headmasters who are assisted by a staff of

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trained native teachers and manual instructors. An annual contribution is made from native funds towards the maintenance of these schools. Higher education is provided for selected pupils from the Provincial and Mission schools at the Queen Victoria Memorial School, Nasinu. Scholarships are provided for the training of promising youths outside the Colony, and four Fijians attended Wanganui Technical College, New Zealand, during the year. A native scholarship fund has been established. Assistance is given by the Government to a number of primary and vernacular schools by a system of money grants which vary in amount according to the standard of education provided in the schools to which the grants are made.

The whole system of native education, including the extent to which additional revenue should be raised for the extension of educational facilities, is receiving the Government's attention. In all matters relating to the education of the natives the Missions have always played an important part and it is felt that progress can most effectively be made by assisting the Missions to improve their present organizations. For this purpose substantial annual grants are made in aid of Davuilevu School, which is used as a training school for native teachers, and of Navuso Agricultural School. A sum of about £8,000 has also been made available for grants in aid of the maintenance of native schools. A building grant of £3,000 has been made to the Methodist Mission school to be built at Nasese for the education and training of Fijian girls. A teachers' training school was established at Lautoka early in the year and there are now 17 Fijian boys in training there. This provides the most essential step towards the placing of native education upon a sound basis. The extension at the same time of technical and agricultural instruction will provide the natives with an education which will be of practical value to them in their endeavours to develop the natural resources of their lands and to raise their standard of living.

The Fijians remain essentially an agricultural people dependent for their livelihood upon the cultivation of their tribal lands. Although a considerable number of the younger men go to work on sugar or coconut estates they almost invariably return to the cultivation of their lands when the object for which they worked has been attained. Their agricultural activities are directed primarily to the planting of crops for their own food supplies. These crops consist chiefly of yams, dalo, tapioca, sweet potatoes, plantains, and bread-fruit. They are skilled agriculturists and although they generally use but the simplest instruments their planting operations are very successful.

Large areas of coconut groves are owned by the natives throughout the Colony. The coconuts are used by them for the manufacture of coconut oil and copra. A considerable proportion of the

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copra exported from the Colony is made by the natives. The improvement in the care of established coconut plantations and in the planting of new areas has been maintained. In Viti Levu alone over 4,000 acres have been planted in coconuts by the natives.

In the chief productive areas European Coconut Inspectors appointed by the Government have carried out a thorough and systematic campaign for the clearing up and thinning out of old coconut groves and have personally supervised the selection and planting of new areas and the manufacture of copra. The effects of this work are to reduce the incidence of disease affecting the coconut palms, to increase the yield of coconuts, and to improve the quality of copra. These results besides being of direct permanent benefit to the native owners serve as a practical demonstration of the utility of adopting better methods of cultivation. The improvement in the health of the coconuts in Viti Levu and adjacent islands consequent upon the effective control of the Levuana moth has been maintained and large areas of coconuts which were formerly non-productive are now bearing well.

The restored confidence in the value of coconut palms has led to the planting of new areas by the natives. The impetus given to the cultivation of coconuts by the control of the Levuana disease aided by the work of the Coconut Inspectors will result in material increase in the prosperity of a very large section of the Fijians.

The major portion of the bananas exported from the Colony is grown by Fijians. Only fruit of first class quality is exported, and in the maintenance of this quality the natives are assisted by European Inspectors appointed by the Government. These Inspectors supervise the weeding out and destruction of diseased plants and the planting of new areas with healthy plants. They advise the natives in the selection of suitable soils, proper methods of drainage and cultivation, and in the handling of fruit. The fruit is sold by the natives to the exporters either at their plantations or at Government packing stations.

The system of granting licences to banana buyers instituted last year has worked well. This system provides minimum prices for the purchase of bananas, the prices varying according to the time of the year. It also ensures a steady market throughout the year for all good quality fruit grown by the natives in the areas over which licences are granted. The provision of known minimum prices and of an assured market should effect an increase in the large income annually derived by the natives from the production of bananas.

The cultivation of sugar cane, which is mainly in the hands of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company and of Indian planters, is gradually being adopted by Fijians. The quantity of sugar cane grown by the natives is not great, but it is steadily increasing. As the cultivation of sugar cane necessitates the use of horses and

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bullocks and of agricultural machinery, hitherto largely untried by the natives, the successful adoption of their use augurs well for the development of more scientific methods of agriculture amongst the Fijians.

As the result of experiments conducted at the Government cotton farm at Sigatoka a variety of cotton has been produced which appears to be admirably suited to local conditions. This variety is more hardy and has a much heavier yield than the Sea Island cotton which has been grown during the past few years. As it can be used more extensively than the Sea Island variety there is likely to be a steadier sale for it in the world's markets. It is as yet too early to gauge the extent to which this cotton can profitably be grown but it is hoped that it will in the near future provide the Fijians, more especially in the inland districts where difficulties of transport preclude the cultivation of heavier crops, with a profitable industry admirably suited to their social system. Towards the end of the year provision was made for the appointment of an agricultural instructor to be under the control of the Secretary for Native Affairs. This Instructor deals direct with the adult Fijians in their villages and by practical demonstration and instruction teaches them to adopt more advanced methods of agriculture. He also assists them in the selection of crops to be grown, and in the cultivation, harvesting, and marketing of these crops. By utilizing the inherited aptitude of the Fijians for communal work he endeavours to teach them co-operative methods of production and marketing, thus eliminating much of the wastage which now attends the haphazard individual efforts to grow crops for profit. The principles on which the Instructor works aim at the establishment of individual planting hand in hand with co-operative measures for the reduction of cost of production, and the agricultural education of the adult Fijians in order that they may pass on the knowledge they acquire to the younger generation and thus secure the most rapid and widespread adoption of improved methods of agriculture. The system of adult education carried out by the Instructor ensures that the individual planter reaps the reward for his labours and, in addition to increasing his material prosperity, gains an added interest in life.

Apart from their agricultural pursuits many of the better educated Fijians occupy administrative and clerical positions in the Government Service. Some have qualified as Native Medical Practitioners and others as Native Stipendiary Magistrates. Others are employed as clerks and shop assistants in several of the larger business houses. A few own and conduct their own stores and a considerable number earn their living as masters, engineers, or seamen on inter-insular vessels or as carpenters and artisans. There is abundant evidence of an increasing desire among the younger Fijians to acquire education and training in order to fit themselves to take an active part in all branches of industry in the

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Colony. The success which has so far attended their efforts holds out encouraging hopes for the future prosperity of the race.

XIII.—INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The vital statistics given elsewhere show a further increase of 1,886 in the Indian population. The birth-rate rose from 34.0 to 34.86, and the death-rate fell from 10.80 to 9.06. These figures are based upon the estimate of the total population, which will be revised and corrected in the Census of 1931. In addition to this natural increase in the population there is likely to be a steady stream of immigration from India, which exceeds emigration by some hundreds every year.

The great bulk of the Indian population is formed of the 60,537 immigrants introduced into the Colony under the indenture system between the years 1879 and 1916, and the descendants of these immigrants. Up to the end of 1929, 30,806 of those possessing repatriation rights had been returned to India and the estimated total of Indian births and deaths in the Colony during the period were 52,254 and 22,410 respectively.

The natural annual increase in population is remarkably high, in spite of the disproportion of the sexes, which, although gradually adjusting itself, still exists, and is a somewhat serious feature in its bearing on the social life of the Indian community. As immigration at present consists principally of the introduction of some hundreds of males every year, it may become necessary to adopt safeguards, in the shape of restricting to family immigration, to prevent the perpetuation of the disproportion in numbers of the sexes.

The Indian population is mainly centred in the sugar-producing tracts, and in Suva and its suburbs. Allowing for increase and movement since the Census of 1921, approximate numbers by districts are: Macuata, 10,000; Ba, 13,000; Nadi and Rewa, 10,000 each; Lautoka, 7,000; Nadroga and Ra, 3,000 each; Suva, 7,000; other places, 7,000.

The great bulk of the population has developed from a condition of agricultural labourers into a body of small farmers, who are now the chief producers of the agricultural products of the Colony. To the Colonial Sugar Refining Company is due most of the credit for educating and training these people to become productive citizens, and for devising a successful scheme for settling them on the land as independent tenant farmers. It is impossible to exaggerate the value to the Indian, and to the Colony, of this simple and well conceived scheme under which the Company is able to guide and assist their tenants to make the most successful use of their holdings, which approximate 8 to 10 acres in area, according to the productive capacity of the land. The tenant's independence is secured, together with a certain income that is more than sufficient for his requirements. Implements and

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machinery are supplied at low rates on a hiring system, and the tenant is given the advantage of service of his stock by the Company's thoroughbred bulls. The building of comfortable houses is encouraged by providing materials at low cost, and in every way the Company have succeeded in producing in this class of Indian a condition of contented prosperity. Much of the credit for the success of what was until recently an experiment is due to those specially selected officers whom the Company have appointed to supervise their tenant farmers in the different areas.

More than two-thirds of the Indians in the Colony obtain their livelihood directly or indirectly from the sugar industry, and a like proportion of the sugar grown in the Colony is cultivated by Indians, either as tenant farmers of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, or as lessees of their holdings directly from the native owners. The latter are afforded the same facilities as the Company's tenants, and they have, therefore, an equal opportunity to develop their holdings to the best advantage.

Cotton and rice are extensively grown by Indians, and other crops grown, principally for the local market, are:—maize, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tobacco, dahl, and yaqona.

It is interesting to note that 60,016 acres of native lands are now leased to Indians, in addition to the Government Indian Settlements, and to approximately 25,000 acres held from the Colonial Sugar Refining Company.

A number of Indians, sufficient for the present requirements of the Colony, are employed as clerks in the Government service and in commercial firms, and as store assistants. The trading licence returns do not distinguish between fresh licences and renewals, but the figures show a rise from 1,554 in 1928 to 1,900 in 1929. Seven hundred and ninety-nine taxi licences were issued to Indians in 1929, and practically all of the lorry, tractor, and taxi drivers in the Colony, as well as the locomotive drivers employed by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, are Indians.

The physical evolution of the Indian in Fiji, owing to the influences of an extremely favourable environment, has resulted in the production of a type in the second and third generations that is physically and mentally much superior to the ancestral.

There was a remarkable increase in the number of marriages to the total of 879, which includes 184 old customary marriages registered under the new Ordinance. This is largely due to the provision which gives extended powers to Indian priests to perform marriages, and makes the legal formalities as simple as possible. It brings, under penalty for default, all customary marriages into the category of legal marriages, and it raises the contract to that position of importance which is essential to the social well-being of the Indian community.

Further evidence of the upward trend in their social development is to be found in the manner in which they are conforming to the

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ways of the country of their adoption, their improved conditions of living and of home life, and a marked diminution of serious crime.

The steamship *Sutlej*, chartered to carry 850 statute adults, sailed for Calcutta on the 9th January with the equivalent of only 576½ adult passengers, repatriated at Government's expense. This is the smallest number of repatriates that has yet been returned to India in a vessel specially chartered for the purpose, and a decrease of 378 on the number returned in the previous vessel. The number included 8 lepers, 30 invalids, and 48 persons classified as paupers.

The records of the past three years show that 2,544 Indians have come to the Colony since 1927. Immigration commenced on a large scale by the repatriation steamer on the earlier voyage to Fiji in 1928, and the figures of immigration for the years 1928 and 1929 exceeded those of emigration by 243.

The experiment of introducing a number of selected repatriated families from India, which was tried in 1928, has proved successful, and the great majority of these people have been absorbed into the population. The experiment has not been repeated, but preparations have been made between the Governments of India and Fiji in readiness to repeat it whenever the conditions are suitable. Emigration to Fiji has received a fresh impetus in India during the last three years. In the second steamer of 1928 there arrived 783 immigrants, of whom 462 were Punjabis; and the steamer due to arrive early in 1930 is conveying another batch of 828 immigrants.

XIV.—METEOROLOGICAL.

Pressure.—The mean pressure for the year, taken at 20.30 and 03.30 Greenwich Mean Time, and reduced to 32° Fahrenheit and Mean Sea-Level, was 29.846″; the highest recorded being 30.134″ on August 16th, and the lowest 28.917″ on January 22nd.

The following table gives the mean pressure for each month of the year, together with the highest and lowest readings and the dates of their occurrences :—

Months.	*Monthly Means.*	*Highest recorded.*	*Date.*	*Lowest recorded.*	*Date.*
January ...	29·694	29·865	11th	28·917	22nd
February ...	29·771	29·880	31st	29·490	19th
March... ...	29·801	29·973	18th, 19th	29·527	4th
April	29·845	29·974	23rd.	29·722	17th
May	29·874	30·062	31st	29·692	14th
June	29·935	30·060	1st	29·749	30th
July	29·919	30·028	12th, 13th, 28th.	29·745	2nd
August ...	29·961	30·134	16th	29·787	21st
September ...	29·941	30·052	10th	29·818	1st
October ...	29·917	30·069	3rd	29·738	22nd
November ...	29·789	29·928	1st	29·556	28th
December ...	29·700	29·885	23rd	28·940	11th

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The absolute lowest readings outside of observation hours during the hurricanes of January and December were as follows :—22nd January, 28.900 at 2.15 p.m., 12th December 28.857 at 1.30 a.m.

Air Shade Temperatures.—The mean temperature for the year was 77.3° Fahrenheit; the highest recorded being 90° on 17th January and 7th March, and the lowest 60° on 3rd September.

Humidity.—The mean percentage of relative humidity for the year was 77.8, the highest, namely 100 per cent., being recorded on the following dates: 9th, 11th, 12th and 16th February, 15th March, 30th April, 5th June, 30th August and 10th and 11th December. The lowest recorded was 48 per cent. on 16th July.

The following table gives the mean monthly temperature and absolute highest and lowest temperatures, and the dates of their registration, together with the mean percentages of relative humidity and the highest and lowest recorded, with the dates of their occurrences during each month of the year :—

Months.	*Temperature in Shade.*					*Humidity (Saturation=100).*				
	Mean.	*Highest.*	*Date.*	*Lowest.*	*Date.*	*Mean.*	*Highest.*	*Date.*	*Lowest.*	*Date.*
January ...	79·8	90	17th	69	25th	76·5	96	23rd	54	26th
February ...	80·1	89	24th	70	2nd	81·6	100	9th, 11th, 12th, 16th.	61	3rd
March... ...	80·3	90	7th	70	14th	78·9	100	15th	59	3rd
April	78·4	87	8th, 25th, 28th.	69	5th, 7th.	77·5	100	30th	57	5th
May	77·2	86	19th, 20th.	66	24th, 26th.	78·3	98	5th	56	26th
June	75·8	87	11th	64	26th, 27th.	82·0	100	5th	59	24th
July	74·7	88	1st	62	16th	76·2	96	21st	48	16th
August ...	72·8	86	20th	62	12th	78·0	100	30th	55	10th, 11th.
September ...	73·4	86	13th, 14th.	60	3rd	73·7	96	20th	51	24th
October ...	76·3	84	9th, 15th, 20th, 28th, 29th.	65	1st, 24th.	76·3	95	7th	58	14th
November ...	79·3	88	8th, 11th.	70	25th	76·3	96	5th	59	19th
December ...	78·9	89	23rd	70	19th	77·9	100	10th, 11th.	57	22nd

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The rainfall was plentiful throughout the year, being 31.04 inches above normal. The greatest amount recorded in any period of 24 hours was 11.20 inches on 10th December. The highest rainfall recorded during the year was at Salia Levu, Taveuni, when 20.18 inches fell on 6th October.

The Colony can definitely be divided into the wet districts, which face the south-east trade winds, and the dry districts, which are screened by mountain ranges. The average rainfall for 1929 in the wet districts was 137.77 inches, the heaviest rainfall being 264.23 inches at Salia Levu, in the island of Taveuni. In the dry districts the average was 83.46 inches, the lightest rainfall being 62.94 inches in the district of Nadroga.

XV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

During 1929 thirty-nine Ordinances were passed of which the following are the principal :—

The Education Ordinance.—This enactment replaces older legislation. The Board of Education has a general supervision over education. Provision is made for District School Committees. All schools must be either registered or recognized, the former alone being eligible for grants-in-aid. All schools are open for inspection, the number and qualifications of teachers and the books of secular instruction are subject to the approval of the Board of Education. In registered schools the curriculum (which includes agricultural and manual instruction) shall be in conformity with regulations to be made by the Board of Education. All teachers must be registered or recognized. Certificates of registration or recognition of schools or teachers are liable to cancellation for sufficient reason. Districts may be proclaimed in which school attendance is compulsory. The Board has substantial power to make regulations subject to such regulations being approved by the Governor-in-Council.

The Native Dealings (Amendment) Ordinance provides that a District Commissioner shall satisfy himself that a native understands a contract to which he is a party before the contract is registered.

The Oil Mines (Amendment) Ordinance provides for the issue of exploration licences, the leasing of native lands, and the acquisition of freehold or leasehold lands for the purposes of oil leases.

The Prevention of Fires (Amendment) Ordinance makes the duty of assisting to extinguish fires outside a Municipality a public one : hitherto the duty has been imposed on Fijians alone, though under certain repealed Ordinances indentured and immigrant labourers were obliged to assist.

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The Prisons (Amendment) Ordinance requires inquests to be held on every prisoner who dies in a gaol.

The Identification of Prisoners Ordinance provides for the identification of prisoners by finger prints. Previous convictions in the Colony or in any part of His Majesty's Dominions, Protectorates, or Mandated Territories may be proved by the identification of finger prints certified to be those of the person previously convicted with the finger prints of the accused person. Finger prints taken on arrest are to be destroyed if the accused is acquitted.

The Supreme Court (Amendment) Ordinance restricts the legal work which may be done for fee or reward by persons who are not admitted as lawyers in the Colony. Provision is made for the administration through the Supreme Court of workmen's compensation awarded by Courts of Great Britain or the Dominions when the beneficiaries reside in Fiji. This accords with 15 and 16 Geo. V. Ch. 84.

The Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance is modelled on the Tanganyika Interpretation Ordinance, 1928.

The Noxious Weeds and Diseases of Plants Ordinance regulates the importation of plants, the destruction of injurious plants and the planting on land declared to be infected with plant disease.

The Fiji Museum Ordinance provides for the constitution of the Fiji Museum. The Ordinance is based on the Imperial War Memorial Act, 1920.

The Licence (Amendment) Ordinance provides for the issue to British ships of wholesale and retail store licences. Ships cannot trade under the licence in a proclaimed harbour. Bank agencies, not being substantive branches of a bank, can be licensed for a fee of £2 10s. 0d. per annum.

The Forgery Ordinance is a consolidation of the Acts of 1861 and 1913. Hitherto the former only was in force in the Colony.

The Matrimonial Causes (Amendment) Ordinance enables a wife to obtain a divorce on the adultery of her husband. The Ordinance is modelled on the English Act of 1923.

The Sinking of Hulks Ordinance regulates the deliberate sinking of old ships in the neighbourhood of the Colony. The intention is to protect submarine cables from damage.

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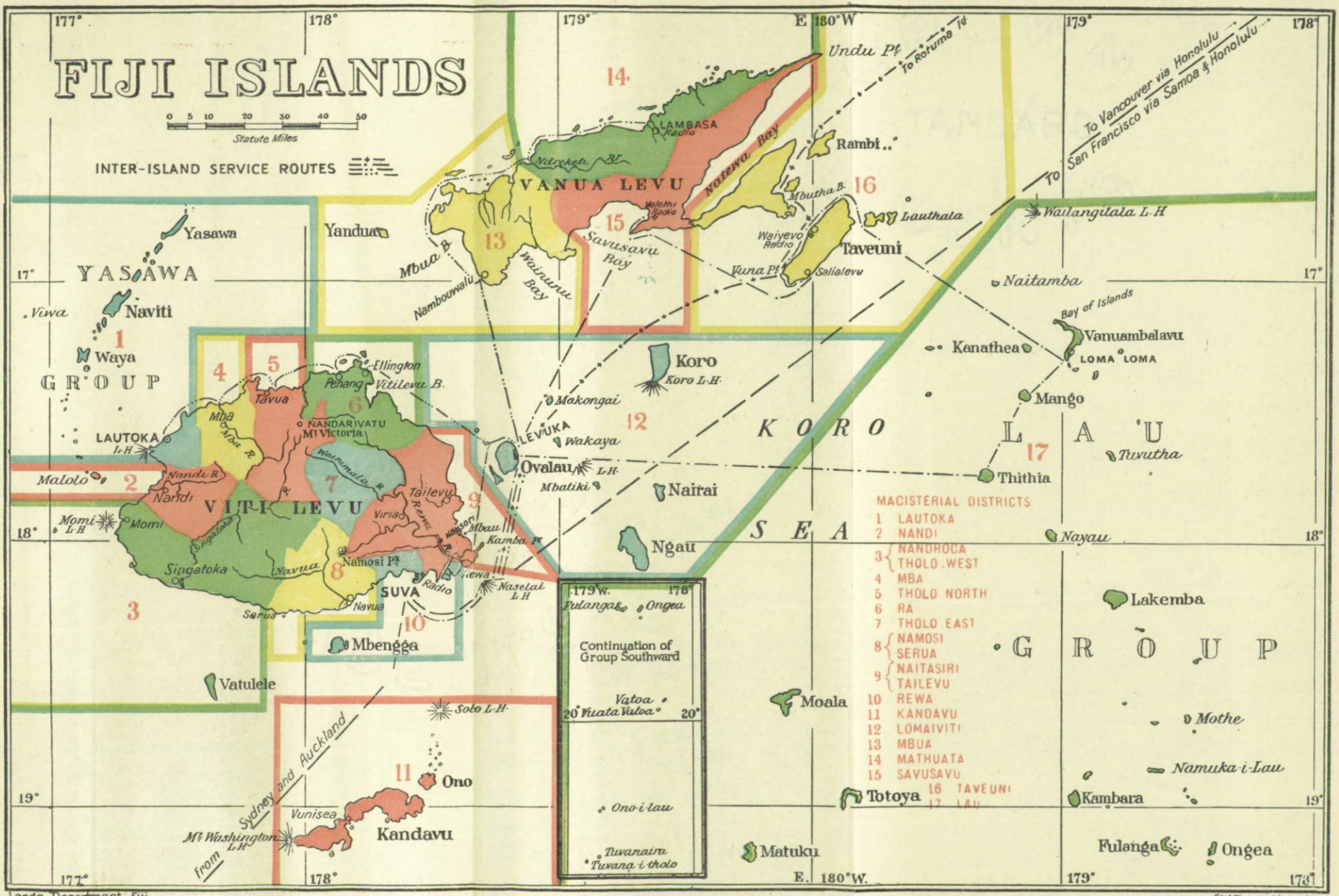

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